SEATO

SEATO Record

Vol. V No. 3

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of France, Mr. Maurice Couve de Murville (right) welcomes SEATO Secretary-General Jesus Vargas at the Quai d'Orsay in Paris. The Secretary-General visited France from April 21 to 26 in the course of a world tour.

SG's Overseas Tour pp. 13-15

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CHICAGO CIRCLE

General Vargas with Dr. A.A. Khalatbary (right). Secretary-General of the Central Treaty Organization, at CENTO Headquarters in Ankara, Turkey.

Freedom must be defended in every quarter.

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Events are isolated neither in time nor in space. SEATO RECORD attempts to bring together significant events of the Organization itself, of its member nations, and of similar organizations of regional nature, as well as statements which reflect attitudes or policies. Background information of this sort is essential to place SEATO in its proper context of world affairs and national development.

SEATO Projects

SEATO Graduate School of Engineering, Bangkok
SEATO Regional Community Development Technical Assistance Centre, Ubol
SEATO Vehicle Rebuild Workshop, Bangkok
SEATO Skilled Labour Projects:

Thailand —

SEATO Military Technical Training School, Bangkok
SEATO Teacher Development Centre, Bangkok
SEATO Vocational Training Centres in:

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Pakistan —

SEATO Technical Training Centre, Dacca
SEATO Technical Training Centre, Karachi

Philippines —

SEATO Vocational Training Centre, Marikina

SEATO Cultural Program

Under-graduate Scholarships, Post-graduate Scholarships
Research Fellowships, Professorships

SEATO Medical Projects

Thailand —

SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, Bangkok
SEATO Clinical Research Centre, Bangkok

Pakistan —

Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory, Dacca

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Note: Monetary figures are given throughout in United States dollars.

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AUSTRALIAN PM'S TOUR IN S.E. ASIA

The Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Harold Holt, made a ten-day tour of Singapore, Malaysia, South Viet-Nam and Thailand from April 21 to May 1.

At the end of his four-day visit to Viet-Nam, on April 25, Mr. Holt told a news conference that he believed all the allied countries would like to see a settlement, and they had all, particularly the United States, made every reasonable effort to negotiate an end to the war.

"Every attempt on our part has been rejected and rebutted," he said. "North Viet-Nam has not been willing to talk."

The allies, he said, must now make it clear to the Communists that aggression did not pay. This could only be done by a continued military effort and by dogged determination pressing the war to a point where North Viet-Nam realized that negotiation was the only way to bring the conflict to a conclusion.

He said he was greatly encouraged by what he had seen of the work and morale of Australian forces in Viet-Nam.

Mr. Holt flew from Saigon to Ubol, in North-East Thailand, where he visited a unit of the Royal Australian Air Force.

Arriving in Bangkok, where he was met by the Prime Minister of Thailand, Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn, Mr. Holt said his visit would enable him to continue talks with the Thai Government on the crisis in Viet-Nam. He said he had come away from Saigon reinforced in his views of the crucial nature of the Viet-Nam war, and fortified by the determination he had found there.

"Australia is determined to be a good ally, and its Government is fully alive to its responsibilities," he said.

In Thailand, Mr. Holt had a meeting with Ministers which was described as unprecedented, in that it was the first time that a head of a foreign government had met almost the entire Cabinet. The discussions covered problems of defence, the regional security of South-East Asia and economic cooperation.

Mr. Holt was received by H.M. the King of Thailand, at Klaikangwol summer palace, Hua Hin.

Speaking at a dinner given in his honour by Field Marshal Thanom, Mr. Holt said:

"We in Australia have come to expect from Thailand a beneficial and deeply-informed contribution to regional affairs. Your country, with its long history of sovereign independence and its deep-rooted national life, has surely a most significant part to play in the future.

"Australia's origins and traditions are very different from your own. We have no comparable background of long participation in the affairs of South-East Asia. Our two countries, however, work closely together in fruitful association. The friendship and close cooperation which Thailand extends to us greatly enhances our feeling that we have a constructive part to play in the region as a whole.

Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Holt, inspects a guard of honour on arrival in Bangkok. He is accompanied by the Prime Minister of Thailand, Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn, and (in rear), Air Chief Marshal Boonchoo Chandrubeksa, Commander-in-Chief, Royal Thai Air Force.

"As modern governments we share the same goals of bringing to our peoples the fruits of prosperity and national development. Our two countries both take a comprehensive view of the problems of the region. We look outwards towards regional cooperation and the sharing of skills and technology.

"Australia and Thailand recognize that the security of the region is vital to the stability and progress to which we are dedicated. Our two countries are fully conscious of the critical nature of the struggle now being waged to ensure the freedom and independence of the region. We share the same conviction that through our own efforts and in partnership with the effort of others this historical struggle can be won."

Mr. Holt visited Malaysia and Singapore after leaving Thailand on April 27.

Reporting to Parliament in Canberra on his return, Mr. Holt warned that Communist military reverses in South Viet-Nam are likely to result in intensified Communist efforts in the political sphere. He said the Communists were likely not only to promote distractions in Viet-Nam, but also to undertake wider political offensives through their agents in the other free countries of the South-East Asian region.

He said he was confident that the Viet Cong could not win the war in Viet-Nam and pointed to their mounting casualties, declining morale and increasing defections.

Everyone he had met in South Viet-Nam was concerned about the political situation. It was a difficult process at any time to establish a new system of government and in Viet-Nam it was made more complex by the variety of groups and local loyalties. Meanwhile, the war situation required a strong executive government.

He was heartened to find that rural rehabilitation and development were now accepted as an important task of the allied military forces. (Radio Australia and PRD).

Australia Seeks Productive Role: Mr. Holt

Statement by the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Harold Holt, on beginning a tour in South-East Asia in April, 1966.

My visit is designed to take me to those South-East Asian countries where Australian forces are serving. Australia has now and immediately in prospect some 8,000 servicemen in the region. Australian forces are involved in the defence of these countries under arrangements based on mutual understanding and partnership. We are determined to be a good ally.

I shall be explaining to the governments in the region the active steps which Australia is taking to expand its defence effort and to shape it for the requirements of collective regional security.

We have taken part in the defence of Singapore and Malaysia for many years and are proud to have made a contribution to the preservation of security and stability in this region.

Our forces are now committed in a combat role in Viet-Nam, at the request of the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam, in assisting the Vietnamese people in their struggle to defend their national independence against Communist aggression.

This aggression in the guise of 'a War of National Liberation' or 'People's War' is being relentlessly waged through techniques of infiltration, terror, subversion and direct military attack.

My visit will not be confined to the immediate military and security problems, important as they are.

I hope to have discussions with governments about what Australia can do to assist in the achievement of social progress and economic development.

The Australian Government wishes to ensure that the role we play in the fields of economic development, technical assistance, education and in developing the skills of the region, is vigorous and productive.

Australia, of course, is already closely engaged in these matters through the Colombo Plan, ECAFE, the new Asian Development Bank and in other bodies.

Recent years have seen Australia and most of the countries of South and South-East Asia come much closer together under the pressure of events. This has been accompanied by a marked growth of understanding, mutual confidence and respect.

It emerges clearly from our political and diplomatic relationships that, despite the separateness of our histories and of our cultural backgrounds, our national aims and external attitudes are very similar indeed—respect for national independence, peace and stability, economic development, widening opportunities and conditions of freedom.

This is my first visit abroad as the Prime Minister of Australia. I am glad that it is being made to the region of South-East Asia where we believe that we have with friendly neighbours a strong sense of common interest and mutuality of purposes. (AIS).

Thai PM Visits Laos

The Prime Minister of Thailand, Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn, made a three-day visit to Laos from March 28 to 30. He was accompanied by Thanpuying Chongkol Kittikachorn, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Thanat Khoman, and the Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr. Sunthorn Hongladarom.

Talks were held between Field Marshal Thanom and the Prime Minister of Laos, Prince Souvanna Phouma on matters of mutual cooperation and common interest. (PRD).

Mr. Mohammad Khaleel, of Dacca, East Pakistan, receives his master's degree in civil engineering at the annual graduation exercise of the SEATO Graduate School of Engineering. Presenting the diploma is the chairman of the school's board of management, the Hon. D.J. Samuel, general manager of the Shell Company of Thailand.

President Stresses Need for US Bases

Excerpts from an address by President Ferdinand E. Marcos at the ceremony of acceptance of two patrol boats handed over by the United States to the Philippine Navy at Subic Bay, March 11, 1966.

I have taken time out from the arduous task of the presidency in order to come to Subic to emphasize not only the existing partnership between the two allies—the Philippines and the United States—but to reiterate once again not only for the Filipino people but to our American freinds, my firm and strong conviction that more than ever, the United States military bases in the Philippines are needed as much by the Philippines as by the United States.

We may disagree on many things but we are bound by the common ties of mutual loyalty to freedom and liberty, and the common objective of winning for the individual freedom and dignity all over the world.

This we believe in, and this the Filipino people will stand for. It is my belief that whatever the articulated differences between the two peoples, these pale into insignificance before the overwhelming danger that threatens not only our land, the Philippines, but all lands of freedom-loving peoples in the world.

I have said, and I repeat, the Philippines fights wherever free men fight for freedom, and as you fight now in South Viet-Nam, so will we fight alongside you.

It is for this reason that I have recommended to the Philippine Congress the sending of an engineer construction battalion with security troops to Viet-Nam. I have done this in order that the Philippines may be counted as among those supporting the ideals of freedom in that part of the globe.

I know that all over the world today, people are watching the partnership between the United States and the Philippines. I am confident, as I visit here at Subic Naval Base, that the arsenal here demonstrates a partnership that shall live not only in my generation but for generations to come.

It is my prayer and hope that this arsenal shall never be needed in the defence of this, our homeland, the Philippines, but I know that if it should be needed, if the Philippines should be attacked, the United States would come to the aid of our country and our people immediately.

Foreign Affairs Head

Mr. S.M. Yusuf, Principal Secretary to the President of Pakistan, has been appointed Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He succeeds Mr. Aziz Ahmad.

Mr. Yusuf assumed the position of principal secretary to the President in May, 1956. He had previously held in succession since 1952 the positions of Joint Secretary, Commerce, Chairman of the Jute Board, Joint Secretary, Cabinet, and Joint Secretary Kashmir Affairs Division, Director-General of the Bureau of Mineral Resources, Director of the Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation, and Secretary, Industries and Natural Resources. (PIS).

Dispatch of Thai Armed Forces to Viet-Nam

Text of the Note delivered by the Chargé d' Affaires of the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the UN to the Chairman of the Security Council

I have the honour, upon instructions from my Government, to inform Your Excellency that the Government of Thailand has decided to dispatch units of its armed forces to South Viet-Nam in order to assist in securing the defence of the free and independent Government and people of the Republic of Viet-Nam against the armed aggression initiated, supported, organized and directed from outside that Republic.

This decision has been made at the request of the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam and in fulfilment of Thailand's obligations as a member of the family of free and sovereign nations. In adopting such a decision, Thailand bases herself on her inherent right of collective self-defence and is acting in conformity with the spirit and the express provisions of the Charter, and with the view to foiling the colonialist and expansionist attempts to dominate and control that country which is struggling to preserve its free and independent existence. In so doing, the Government of Thailand is prompted by the desire to see lasting peace and stability prevail in South-East Asia and to bring the fighting now raging in the area to a speedier end." (MFA).

Foreign Aid 'Essential to US Security'

Excerpts from a prepared statement by US Secretary of State Dean Rusk before the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee, April 18, 1966.

Foreign aid is basic to United States security.

Without it, many countries undoubtedly would have been subverted or overrun in the past two decades.

Without it, the frontiers of freedom would have shrunk and Americans would be living in a less stable and more threatening world. . . .

The economic assistance program we are proposing is based on two fundamental facts:

— First, that the basis for successful foreign aid is self-help. No amount of US assistance can do the job unless the recipient nation itself invests the resources, makes the reforms, and adopts the policies which will lead to lasting progress.

US aid will not be provided unless nations are willing to do their part in the crucial task of development; it will not be provided where nations engage in wasteful foreign adventures or bitter disputes with their own neighbours.

The President has made this clear in his messages to the Congress; he has made this clear to recipient nations in his actions.

— Second, that the major concern of a successful foreign aid program must be people. Our aid cannot be concerned simply with dollars or plans or facilities.

That is why we are proposing a renewed attack in the fields of education, health and agriculture.

Our own experience in America demonstrates that the vital ingredient of progress is people who are educated and healthy, people who have enough of the right food to eat, people who look to the future with hope.

This is no vision or dream. It is realism rooted in experience.

Our foreign aid program is designed to help others follow the same path of progress.

We are continuing to focus our aid in those nations and on those programs where self-help and performance are the strongest and where US security interests are most directly served. As a result, in the fiscal year 1967:

— 92 per cent of the total country programs is concentrated in 20 countries—84 per cent of development loans is for 8 countries.

— 93 per cent of supporting assistance is for 5 countries, with 72 per cent in Viet-Nam alone.

These are the countries where US interest is great, where US aid can effectively serve this interest, and where aid recipients are making the great effort to help themselves . . .

We are increasing our efforts to stimulate the private sector in the developing countries and increase the role of US private enterprise in our assistance programs.

Until the energies of all the citizens of a developing nation are involved in the job of building a better life and until all can share in that life, there is no true progress.

The US government itself can only do a small part of the job. It must rely increasingly on our business and labour leaders, our teachers and lawyers, our farmers and bankers, who have great reservoirs of knowledge and experience important to the attack on the problems of the developing nations. As part of our renewed efforts we will make greater use of the unique contributions which US private citizens can make.

Lord Mayor of Bangkok, Mr. Chamnarn Yuvapurna, who recently visited Pakistan to observe the working of the system of Basic Democracies, is interviewed for a SEATO radio program by Mr. S.M. Ali (right), managing editor of the 'Bangkok Post'.

We expect to carry on a frank and constructive review with recipient countries of obstacles to domestic and foreign private investment. We will continue to support liberalization of over-controlled economies; to furnish assistance to the formation of cooperatives, and the training of labour and business people; and to support institutions offering improved credit facilities and advisory services for small and medium-sized farms and businesses.

We are placing increasing efforts on programs to combat subversion and the despair and frustration on which such subversion grows. This is a crucial aspect of our aid, for as we have seen in many parts of Latin America, Africa, and Asia, where insurgents are active, the energies of a people are diverted from the long-range job of peaceful development to the short-run task of survival. These programs focus in four major areas:

— Public safety, which helps to build basic local security;

— Civic action, sponsored and supported by both the Military Assistance Program and AID through which local military units participate in nation building projects;

— Rural and community development, which helps to build local government units and increase local participation in economic and social improvement projects;

— Labour and youth, which are, of course, essential parts of the foundation for a society of progress and freedom.

A major portion of the funds in the 1964 foreign economic aid program — $550 million — is for Viet-Nam.

That struggle is not simply a matter of guns and troops and planes. It also involves hard, basic work being done in the villages to improve agricultural productivity, increase health services and establish educational systems.

As part of similar efforts elsewhere in South-East Asia, we are stepping up our assistance to Thailand and Laos.

There are also encouraging signs of a developing regionalism in Asia. The countries of the area are beginning to look beyond their own borders for ways in which they can cooperate in the common problems of economic development. For some years, the Mekong Coordination Committee, which includes representatives of Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and South Viet-Nam, has been conducting studies and pre-investment surveys for the long-range development of the Mekong Basin. Two smaller projects in Thailand are, in fact, nearly completed, and engineering work for the Nam Ngum dam in Laos will shortly get under way.

We are ready to increase the amount of our own contributions to international institutions, as other donor nations demonstrate a willingness to increase theirs. It is, of course, essential that international institutions which offer assistance maintain their non-political and multilateral status.

Regional cooperation

The US has also worked hard to encourage the momentum of regional multilateral institutions. We have lent strong support for the Inter-American Development Bank and its fund for special operations, and for the newly-formed African and Asian development banks.

We have met with some success in our efforts to get other donor nations to provide more aid on better terms. Total Free World aid commitments are substantially greater today than they were in 1960, and US bilateral assistance accounts for a smaller proportion of the total.

Total bilateral aid commitments from other DAC donors has grown from $1.8 billion in 1960 to $2.5 billion in 1964. Other donors are providing more aid to countries other than their own former colonial possessions. The terms on which aid is provided are steadily, if slowly, improving. The growing number of arrangements for coordination of aid among donors is particularly encouraging.

As the less-developed nations increasingly turn their energies to the serious task of development, we expect that overall requirement for external capital will rise over the next few years.

In addition, the debt burden which the less developed countries bear is expected to grow and must be taken into account. New aid provided to less developed countries each year must be discounted by the amount of repayments they must make on previous hard term debts and increasing amounts of new capital will be necessary just to maintain a constant net flow of resources.

We hope and we expect that private investment and funding on commercial terms will meet an increasing proportion of these requirements. And we expect the less developed countries to keep their economic houses in order—not only by using their own resources wisely but also by efficiently managing their debt obligations.

Short and long range

The foreign aid program is essential to United States security and national interest in both their short and long-range aspects.

For the short-range, the program provides direct support to Viet-Nam, assists self-defence and internal security efforts in other countries, and helps to build the stability essential to a peaceful future.

For the long-range also, we need our foreign aid program, because as the President said, "we are concerned with the kind of world our children will live in."

We seek a world of progress and of peace, where each nation lives in independence. This is no dream; it is a necessity. For in this age of rapid communication, rockets, and nuclear power, what happens half a world way is of vital concern to us and our security.

Only as others grow in freedom, progress and security can we here in the United States be truly free and secure to enjoy the blessings of a better life. (USIS).

Mrs. Akhtari Alam, a technician in the bacteriology section of the Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory, Dacca, shows a cholera strain culture to two delegates to the annual meeting of the laboratory's directing council, Mr. David A. Wraight (left), Deputy Secretary-General of SEATO, and Dr. Chom Dhebyasuvarn, of Thailand.

Commitment in Asia Reaffirmed by US

In separate statements in April four senior US spokesmen reaffirmed the US commitment to policies securing Thailand and other South-East Asian countries against Communist militancy and expansionism.

Underscoring the American determination to contain Communist Chinese aggressiveness were Vice-President Hubert Humphrey, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, US Ambassador at large W. Averell Harriman, and US Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs William Bundy.

"I do believe that containment of the aggressive militancy of Communist China is a necessary and worthy objective—just as we had to contain Soviet militancy in Europe after the Second World War," Vice President Humphrey said in an interview published by two Italian newspapers.

The US, he declared, "will seek to help the non-communist countries of Asian help themselves—to help them build stronger societies through programs of education, health and economic development. At the same time we will maintain a firm but not belligerent attitude toward Communist China.

"We will make it crystal clear that aggression will be met, and stopped. To do less than this, I think, would be to encourage the Chinese Communist regime to take chances that it should not take."

Secretary Rusk also said it is just as essential to contain Communist aggression in Asia as in Europe, in testimony before the Far East sub-committee of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee.

Ambassador Harriman and Assistant Secretary Bundy cited Thailand's success in resisting Communist Chinese subversive pressures.

Assistant Secretary Bundy, in a statement before the same Congressional committee, charged Communist China with a direct role in support of the "Thai Patriotic Front." He said:

"I happen to have just returned from Thailand, and to hear about it on the spot is to be reminded forcibly that this is without question a Communist Chinese operation. It has not been possible for the Communists to get any major group of dissidents within Thailand.... There is no significant group of dissidents that is prepared to adopt the Chinese Communist view. Accordingly, the Communists have created this 'Thai Patriotic Front' from Thai elements living in China.

"They are apparently using extensively agents trained in schools in China in a large number of schools that are now teaching the Thai language and subversive techniques. These agents are being introduced into Thailand by devious means, drawing in some cases on people in North-East Thailand for help.

"It is a very much 'made in China' product that we are seeing there and not a proxy operation in any sense."

Ambassador Harriman, in a speech at a mid-Western Democratic conference in Ohio, said "the Thai government has been taking constructive measures to control the situation" created by Chinese attempts to ignite guerrilla insurgency in North-East Thailand.

Commenting on South Vietnamese efforts to move ahead in the orderly creation of a democratic government, Ambassador Harriman said:

"In recent weeks we have seen how difficult this process is. Yet Americans should be the first to recognize that the establishment of a democratic government is not an easy task. The chaotic conditions of our own early history under the Articles of Confederation should make us understand what we are witnessing today. Even in recent history, when we were helping Greece face the bandit war there were five changes in government during the first two years of the Truman Doctrine. We should also recall that in France during the first two critical years of the Marshall Plan there were six different governments. In these trying situations we did not turn back and in the end our objectives were achieved. I have no doubt of the eventual outcome in Viet-Nam under President Johnson's firm yet restrained policies in seeking our limited objectives." (USIS).

The third Asia and Oceania Congress of Endocrinology will be held in Manila from January 2 to 6, 1967. Delegates from Australia, New Zealand, India, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and the United States have so far signified their intention to attend the congress, which will be sponsored by the Philippine Society of Edocrinology and Metabolism, with the cooperation of Philippine Medical Association and the Philippine Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society.

* * *

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade has approved Australia's plan to reduce tariffs on a range of imports from developing countries. (AIS).

Two Nations Bound by Common Ideals

Excerpts from a radio broadcast made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, Mr. Thanat Khoman, in Australia, March, 1966.

Australia and Thailand belong to one same region: that is to say the Asia and Pacific region. Presently the developments in this part of the world have made our two nations even closer. In Australia, you may be a little bit further from the stream of turmoil, but already Australia is involved in the conflict not because she desires to do so but because, I believe, she realizes that there is no way of escaping the events which are taking place in our part of the world. Thailand also is facing the same situation. Some leaders of countries not far from ours have threatened us, have challenged us, and even have declared that they wanted to carry guerilla warfare into our country. Those threats came from the leaders of Communist China. They were made not in jest but in earnest. Already a number of actions have been taken by the Communist side to undermine our free existence and to make us lose the most valuable heritage of all—freedom and independence. That is why we have to face the challenge and we are gratified that in this hour of peril we find many friends who stand by us and stand with us, among them the gallant Australian nation. We find in the Australian nation stalwart friends—friends who are with you through thick and thin. We can rely on you. We know that and we thank you for that.

But we will not make an appeal to Australia or to any one of our friends so long as we can do the job ourselves—the job of struggling against the aggressors, of repelling the aggression, of safeguarding our freedom and independence. But it is a reassuring condition to find that there are friends who understand us and who want to work and cooperate with us. The members of the Thai delegation who came here on a visit were impressed by the great strides made by the Australian economy, by the sustained efforts of the Australian nation to develop itself into a modern and progressive nation. We are trying to do the same thing in Thailand and in the way we have also succeeded as the Australian nation is succeeding in developing itself and making itself into a forward looking and progressing nation.

So, these are the few things I believe we have in common: a deep desire to lead a free way of life, a deep attachment to our cultural heritage, a deep attachment to our soil and also the deep desire to be a modern nation, a nation that moves along on the road of progress. So whether we share the same historical background or not, whether we share the same past heritage or not, is not too important. What is more important than anything else is that Australians and Thai have one thing in common, and that is the desire to live in peace, the desire to live in a modern world where each individual is allowed to develop into a useful element of society. That is why we have sent so many Thai youths to Australia to learn from you what you have done to your great country, and we thank you for admitting them into your homes, into your community. We earnestly believe that the Thai young people, boys and girls, will have learnt from their valuable experience in your country. And after their period of training and learning, not only in terms of knowledge, but in terms of the spirit that animates the Australian nation to move forward, they will go back to Thailand and make themselves useful to their families and their nation.

SEATO Fellow, Mr. Mazhar-ul-Haq Saeed Ahmad (right) meets SEATO Secretary-General Jesus Vargas on arriving in Bangkok to begin an intensive study of the construction of low-cost roads. Mr. Ahmad, Director of the Road Research Institute, Lahore, spent the first two months of his fellowship working with Prof. John Hugh Jones at the SEATO Graduate School of Engineering.

I believe these are the bonds which link our two nations, not only the bonds which make the two governments talk to each other as friends, not only the bonds which exist on the official level, but the bonds which link the two peoples together to make our people feel friendly to the other. These relationships of people to people, on a basis of man to man, woman to woman, young people to other young people, these, I think, are the important bonds of understanding and friendship, and I can assure you that we in Thailand intend to cultivate these bonds, these contacts and these relationships. I hope that by learning to work together, to understand one another, we will serve not only our two nations but by and large the region in which we live and make this region a region of peace, of well-being and progress.

We are sure that with friends like Australia, Thailand and other nations can succeed in making South-East Asia an area of peace instead of an area where the aggressors can come and attack us. With our cooperation and our understanding, the two nations can serve the interests of the South-East Asian region. They can also serve the interests of the world at large by repelling aggression which is being committed against free nations in South-East Asia, especially in South Viet-Nam. By being together and with other of our friends, we will succeed in making this region safe from aggression where peace, prosperity and well-being can exist and can progress. (AIS).

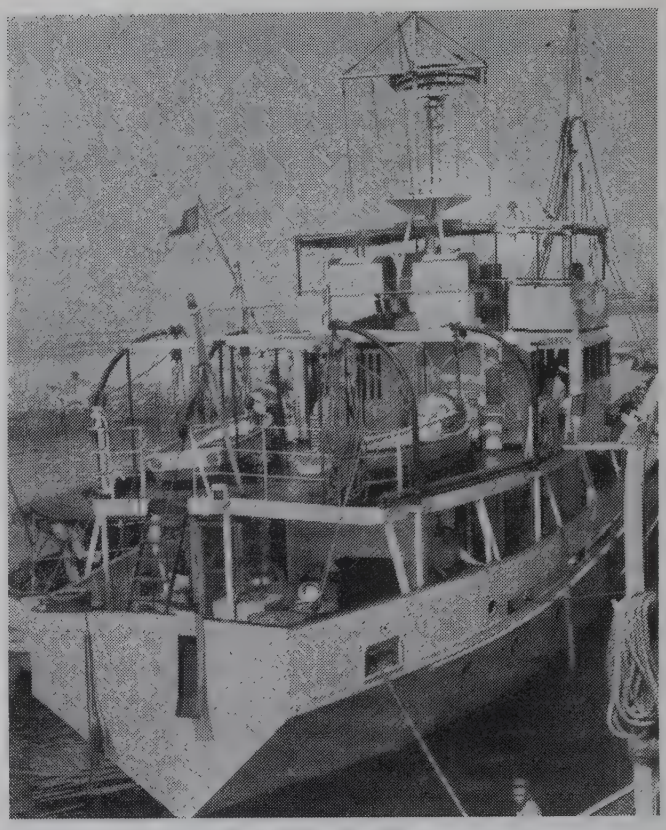
VN COMMITMENT, AID REVIEWED

A trebling of the number of Australian military forces in Viet-Nam to a total of 4,500 was among a number of Federal Government decisions announced by the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Holt, in the Australian House of Representatives on March 8.

Mr. Holt said that Australia's new commitment in Viet-Nam would form a self-contained task force of 4,500 men, comprising the 5th and 6th Battalions, Royal Australian Regiment, including National Servicemen, a Special Air Service squadron, substantial combat and logistic support units, a flight of eight Iroquois helicopters of the RAAF and the flight of six Caribou transport aircraft and 100 Army advisers already in Viet-Nam.

The new forces would replace the 1st Battalion RAR in June.

"It is our judgment that this is the most militarily effective way in which we can assist the overall Allied effort in South-East Asia at this time," he said.



The coastal survey ship Arinya berthed at the port of Manila. With her sister ship Arlunya, the Arinya was built for the Philippines' Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey in Australia under the Australian SEATO aid program. Each ship has a gross tonnage of 178, a cruising range of 1,700 miles, and a complement of 30 officers and men.

"The normal tour of duty in Viet-Nam of personnel in the task force will be 12 months. The Government has also decided that the National Service intake will be continued at 8,400 each year.

"These are decisions of great responsibility and we have not taken them lightly. Australia cannot stand aside from the struggle to resist the aggressive thrust of Communism in Asia and to ensure conditions in which stability can be achieved. Our own national security demands this course.

We cannot be isolationist or neutralist, placed as we are geographically and occupying, as we do, with limited national strength, this vast continent. We cannot leave it solely to our allies—and their National Servicemen—to defend in the region the rights of countries to their independence or their national way of life.

"I am confident that a majority of this Parliament

will warmly support this increase in the Australian contribution. The overwhelming support given by the Congress of the United States of America in recent days to the amounts sought by the President for the conduct of military and aid operations, is encouraging testimony of the strength of purpose of the American people."

Mr. Holt said the Government was considering the supply of goods and material of various kinds by Australian industry to the American forces in South Viet-Nam. Agreement now had been reached on the sale of a substantial quantity of Australian small arms ammunition to the American forces.

"We have also been asked to quote for a number of other important items, most of which are needed in large quantities," he said. "We are now working on these requests. I might add that we took the opportunity to put this whole matter in the mind of Mr. Humphrey on his recent visit. We believe that Australia can, with advantage to the allied effort and to our own nation, play an increasing part in this matter of supply."

Aid plans

On overseas aid he said that Australia had an expanding role to play in South-East Asia and the world at large, consistent with its growth in economic strength and the development of its natural resources.

"Our three-year defence program, now in its first year of duration, is one measure of our response to our obligations," he said. "In the four years between 1962 and 1966, the defence vote has doubled, from approximately $448 million to $896 million. Aid appropriations from our budget totalled $127.6 million this year.

"This is more than nine times the amount given in the year before we took office. This is practical recognition of the needs of other countries for our assistance.... We are currently spending about 0.6 per cent of our gross national product on external aid. There are few donor countries which can match this record.

"We have joined the Asian Development Bank, on the basis of an Australian subscription of $85,000,000. This is a substantial contribution quite disproportionate to our population and national wealth, when compared with the subscription of major donors such as the United States and Japan.

"Our contribution reflects our willingness to play a significant part in promoting greater prosperity and security throughout the South-East Asian area, and our hope that this new instrument will play an increasingly significant part in that process." (AIS).

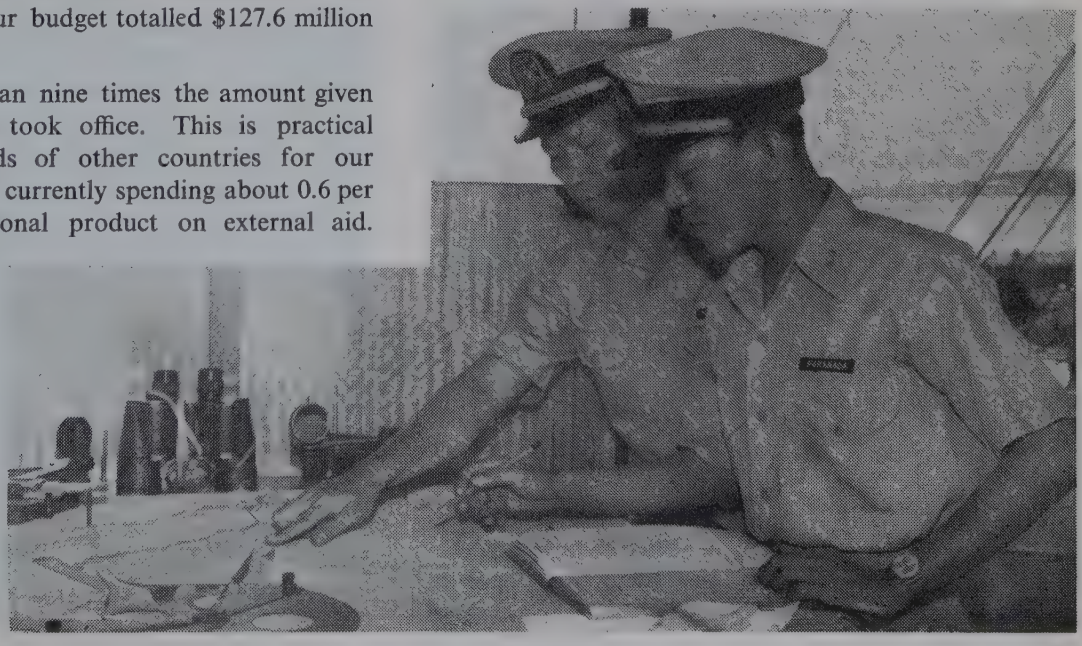
Military Aid to VN Obligatory: Ingles

Philippine Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs Jose D. Ingles said on May that the Philippines is bound by her SEATO commitments to send an engineering battalion to South Viet-Nam.

He analyzed Philippine commitments to Viet-Nam under the SEATO pact in a speech at the commencement exercises of the Luzon Colleges in Dagupan City.

Tracing the involvement of the alliance in Viet-Nam, he pointed out that:

1. The London agreement among the SEATO members is binding on the six states including the Philippines which voted in favour of the agreement.



Officers engaged in charting work on the bridge of the Arinya.

Treaty obligations under the Manila Pact are individual and collective.

2. The London Declaration committed the member-states "to increase their assistance to South Viet-Nam" consistent with their commitments elsewhere.

3. Of the six which signed the London Declaration, Australia, New Zealand and the United States have sent combat troops. Thailand has sent a military air detachment.

He said the Philippines should send an engineering battalion instead of economic aid since some countries which are not SEATO members are already sending economic aid to South Viet-Nam.

He added that SEATO is the only collective defensive shield that Philippines has, which must not be discharged until a better one can take its place. (Phil. IS).

Meeting Two-fold Security Threat

In a statement on foreign affairs, the Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Hasluck, said in the Australian House of Representatives on March 10 that Australia was fighting in Viet-Nam by its own choice and decision. "We are not in it at the behest of any nation or group of nations," he said.

The war in Viet-Nam affected the fate of all countries in South-East Asia and threw into sharp relief the aim of Communist China to dominate them by force. The real risk was not in the fear of provoking Communist aggression but in failure to block it.

Australia was living on the edge of a great upheaval, both in human relations and in the ideas which influenced the conduct of mankind. It could not withdraw from the region and could not do anything to prevent the upheaval. Australia needed allies for the sake of its security and to enable the principles it thought vital to prevail.

Australia had chosen the principles on which its conduct was to rest, and stood with those powers which would help maintain them. Australia's foreign policy was based on a proper concern for its security and on a belief that certain principles of international conduct must be observed in order to have fair and honest dealings between nations to achieve peace.

Mr. Hasluck said the danger to Australia's security was twofold. There was the danger of global war, and "the belligerent fact of Asian Communist imperialism." This was being held in check by the resistance of the free countries of Asia, helped by non-Asian countries, including Australia.

Asia must be free from the domination of any single great power and safe from the persistent subversion of Communism. "Our whole interest as Australians is in the advance of all peoples of this region to a new and brighter future of freedom, independence and opportunity," he said.

"What threatens this freedom and independence and what dims their hope for the future is the dread of domination by the new imperialism of China and the throttling grip of Communist aggressors.... "For the sake of our own security we will continue to support the United States and its allies in maintaining the restraints of power against the other great aggregations of power, while hoping that throughout the world, success in containment of power will be followed in all cases by attempts to develop the conditions for co-existence....

"We are not engaged in the rearguard struggle of a doomed colonialism. We are taking part in the establishment of conditions which allow independent nations to exist and prosper in Asia. Free Asia needs the reinforcement of the free world....

"While on our side the search for peace will go on, the prospects are of a long and difficult struggle in Viet-Nam. The possibility of military victory has been denied to the Vietcong and the North Vietnamese armies supporting them. They do not have the logistics or the fire power to defeat the South Vietnamese and their allies in open battle. They can no longer hope to bring about the disintegration of the forces opposing them by rapid attack and dispersal with light losses to themselves....

"In countries such as our own and the United States the questioning, the search for some way to peace, will go on. It is our pride as a free people that this questioning and the public debate can take place, but, while we debate, let us never forget the central issues which are at stake," Mr. Hasluck said. (AIS).

An exhibition devoted to the famous New Zealand writer Katherine Mansfield was held recently at the Jacques Doucet Library in Paris under the patronage of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The exhibition included paintings, photographs and manuscripts. (FIS).

Support for SEATO Programs: SG's World Tour

Support for vigorous SEATO programs in the fields of counter-subversion, economic development and cultural activity was expressed by the leaders and high officials of member countries he had visited in the course of a world tour, the Secretary-General, Lt. Gen. Jesus M. Vargas said on his return to Bangkok on May 17.

"President Johnson agreed with my views, and my intention to promote these programs," General Vargas said. "I was very happy to know from the French leaders that they are in agreement with these activities which I am trying to promote."

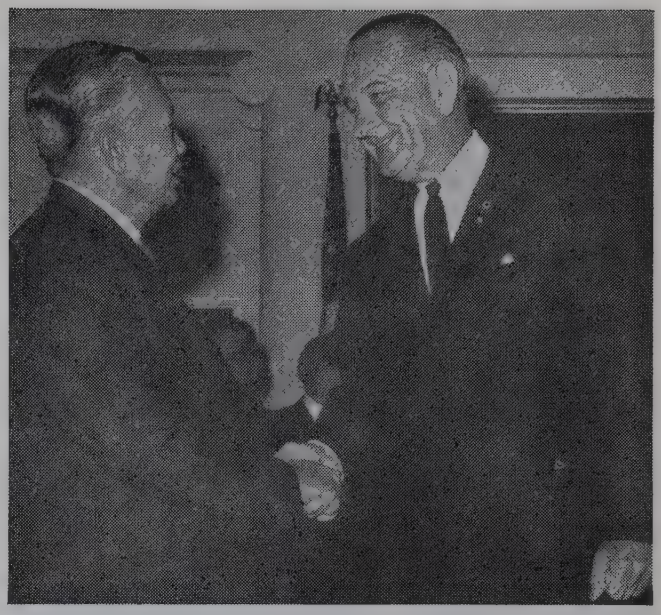
In reply to newsmen's questions, General Vargas said his discussions in France and Pakistan had convinced him that those countries were still interested in cooperation within the SEATO framework.

"I can tell you most frankly that they will be with us, not only organizing with us, but cooperating." he continued.

Gen. Vargas said that he had been granted an audience with His Holiness Pope Paul VI in Rome.

"My purpose was to express on behalf of SEATO our appreciation of the efforts being made by the Holy Father to promote world peace," he said.

Leaving Bangkok on April 11, General Vargas visited the United States, France, the United Kingdom and Pakistan. He also visited the headquarters of NATO in Paris and of CENTO in Ankara. He was accompanied by his Executive Assistant, Lt. Col. Jose L. Reyna Jr.

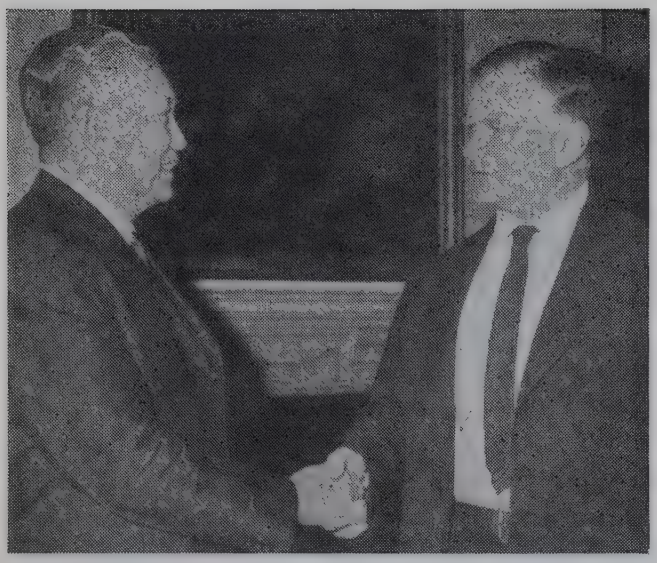


President Lyndon B. Johnson greets Secretary-General Vargas at the White House on April 19.

After discussions with the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific and SEATO Military Adviser for the United States, Admiral Ulysses S. Grant Sharp in Honolulu, he visited San Francisco, and the State of Colorado. At Colorado State University he had "an important exchange of views" on the future status of the SEATO Graduate School of Engineering. (The university has provided the United States element of support in staff and material assistance to the Graduate School since its inception).

In Washington, apart from his meeting with President Johnson, he had also had discussions with Vice President Humphrey, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, the Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Earle Wheeler, and other high officials.

Mr. Pichai Boonyakanjana of Thailand (centre), who is working for a Ph. D. at Colorado State University, explains to the Secretary-General the use of a special flume for delta study. At left is Lt. Col. Jose L. Reyna, executive assistant to the Secretary-General. Mr. Pichai received his master's degree at the SEATO Graduate School of Engineering in Bangkok in 1961.



SEATO Secretary-General Jesus Vargas is greeted by Lord Walston, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, at the Foreign Office in London.

"I had occasion to explain to them that SEATO has continued to be an effective defensive alliance against any type of aggression, whether military or otherwise," Gen. Vargas said.

A meeting with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant, had been the highlight of a brief visit to New York.

After his visits to Paris, where he met the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Maurice Couve de Murville, and to London, for a meeting with the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Michael Stewart, Gen. Vargas travelled to Rome and then Ankara for two days of discussions with the Secretary-General of CENTO, Dr. A.A. Khalatbary and his senior staff.

In an extensive tour of West and East Pakistan Gen. Vargas visited SEATO projects, including the Technical Training Centres at Karachi and Dacca, and the Cholera Research Laboratory at Dacca. He also visited industrial areas and universities.

In Rawalpindi, he was received by the President, of Pakistan, Field Marshal Mohammad Ayub Khan and had a "fruitful discussion." He also met the Governors of West and East Pakistan.

Referring to the "tremendous success" of the Rural Development Academies at Peshawar and Comilla, Gen. Vargas said: "They are well advanced in rural development in Pakistan, not only in the way of promoting community development, but also cooperative systems, and family planning."

The main purpose of his tour, Gen. Vargas said, was to pay his respects to Heads of State and Ministers and senior officials of member governments who are connected with the conduct of SEATO activities. The tour also provided the opportunity to review with them the achievements of the organization and to discuss its future activities.

"It proved to be valuable and of great importance to me in the carrying out of my responsibilities," he said. "I am also most grateful to the Governments of the member countries I visited for the great hospitality and the courtesies extended to me."

US Communique on Gen. Vargas' Visit

Text of White House press release issued after President Johnson's meeting with SEATO Secretary-General Vargas April 19.

President Johnson extended a warm welcome to Secretary-General Vargas on behalf of the United States Government. The President noted with pleasure that the Secretary-General had had an opportunity to meet

Secretary-General Vargas examining the commemorative medallion presented to him by Brigadier General Philip W. Mallory, Commander of Walter Reed General Hospital in Washington. General Vargas visited the hospital on April 18, in the course of his tour of the United States.

with the Vice President and senior officials here in Washington, including Secretary Rusk. General Vargas also will be meeting with Secretary McNamara later today and with United Nations Secretary-General U Thant and Ambassador Goldberg in New York.

The President was glad to have had an opportuniry to talk personally with the Secretary-General, not only because the United States considers SEATO vital to the security of South-East Asia. but also because General Vargas has himself been a champion of the cause of freedom in his own country and now in a distinguished international capacity.

Secretary-General Vargas expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to meet with the President as well as other United States Government leaders. His visit to the United States was one of a series he is making to all SEATO member countries for the first time in his present capacity. He hoped to complete those visits prior to the next SEATO Council meeting to be held in Canberra at the end of June. The Secretary-General expressed his gratitude for the very strong United States support for all the Organization's activities, including joint military planning, counter-subversion, and other efforts designed to deter Communist aggression in South-East Asia.

The President expressed his hope that the Canberra Council meeting would succeed in furthering the objectives of the Organization. He noted that Secretary Rusk was expected to head the United States delegation on that occasion. The President wished General Vargas every success in his tenure as SEATO Secretary-General.

General Vargas examines a microscope specimen at the Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory, Dacca. With him is Captain Robert A. Phillips, Director of the laboratory.

On his return, General Vargas discusses his trip with Pakistan Ambassador, Mr. P.M. Chaudhri (centre) and Counsellor of the French Embassy, Mr. Andre Ross.

The Essentiality of SEATO

Excerpts from a speech by SEATO Secretary-General Jesus M. Vargas to the International Women's Club, Bangkok, March 17, 1966.

Let us look for a moment at South-East Asia, the area of our immediate concern. Since the end of the Second World War the area has been going through a period of significant change. Many peoples have achieved independence, and nations which were already independent have had to adjust to the facts of an entirely new situation.

In this time of change, the leaders of international Communism have seized every possible chance to foment trouble. They have been cunning in switching their tactics; sometimes they attempt to capture control of countries by open war, inspired and directed from outside. At other times they employ the weapons of subversion to undermine governments from within.

The danger of aggression, direct or indirect, for a time seemed to recede, but Communist military activity in Laos and South Viet-Nam has indicated clearly that the Communists are constantly probing the Treaty Area. Subversion and pressure, applied in many subtle ways, continue. World Communism — the "new imperialism" — will not easily give up its efforts to control this great area of the world.

It is a fundamental principle of collective security that no nation, however great, can today afford to stand alone. Any erosion of the values, and basic rights, and freedom of action of States which believe in the liberty of the individual, must represent a loss to all like-minded States, wherever they may be. It has been agreed that the threat posed by international Communism to these values, basic rights, and freedom of action must be opposed by collective action.

The special needs of South-East Asia were recognized in the South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty, which was signed by eight nations at Manila on September 8, 1954, and which brought SEATO into being. The preamble to the Treaty speaks of the equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and the promotion of self-government by peaceful means. These phrases were appropriate to an area of the world which had largely been under colonial rule and was then emerging into full independence.

Commitments of this nature are not entered into without careful consideration. How then was SEATO designed to stem the tide of Communist aggression?

The purpose of the treaty is clearly set down in Article II, which states that "the parties, by means of continuous and effective self-help and mutual aid will maintain and develop their individual and collective capacity to resist armed attack and to prevent and counter subversive activities directed from without against their territorial integrity and political stability." Again in Article III, they undertake "to strengthen their free institutions, and to cooperate with one another in the further development of economic measures, including technical assistance, designed both to promote economic progress and social well-being, and to further the individual and collective efforts of Governments towards these ends."

In short, SEATO is designed to stem overt direct Communist aggression by creating and maintaining the required military defence, or deterrent power, and to thwart indirect or covert Communist aggression — subversion, if you will — by advising and assisting in efforts designed to remove or ameliorate the conditions upon which Communist propagandists and agitators thrive. It is thus a defensive alliance, in both a military and civil sense.

Let us consider each of these phases. First, the military: effective defence against overt or direct Communist aggression against SEATO member nations calls for readiness on the part of *all* member nations at *all* times to resist it collectively. Military Advisers' Representatives, high-ranking officers representing each of the member countries, are on duty at SEATO Headquarters here in Bangkok where their principal responsibility is detailed military planning for defence of the Treaty Area.

They constantly study and analyze developments in the area, and their planning reflects their determination to be ready to cope with any number or combination of military contingencies. Moreover, their plans are reviewed and approved by the highest military authorities of each member country, and are tested and approved in annual military exercises, some of which have in the past employed as many as 37,000 soldiers, sailors, and airmen from the member countries. It has been demonstrated time and again that those plans, and the forces at SEATO's disposal, provide us with the mobility and capability to cope with any direct Communist aggression against a SEATO member country.

Australian geophysicist, Mr. P.J. Milne, is making a survey of the operation, administration and capabilities of seismograph stations in South-East Asia and the Pacific area with the aid of a SEATO Fellowship. He is shown here calling on the Deputy Secretary-General of SEATO, Mr. David A. Wraight, at SEATO Headquarters in Bangkok.

I can assure you that the plans are fully up-to-date; are constantly under review; are revised, when necessary, and are ready for implementation on extremely short notice. It is my sincere belief that this knowledge serves to reassure and comfort many people in this part of the world. It is also my sincere belief that this knowledge serves as well to deter those who have designs to subvert the area to their nefarious ends.

Let us now turn to the second principal area of our responsibility — that field of SEATO activity aimed at thwarting *indirect* or *covert* Communist aggression — our efforts to counter subversion.

I said a few moments ago that the Communists have been cunning in switching their tactics. When their weapons of war appear incapable of attaining their objective of capturing control of a target, they quickly revert to the weapon of subversion to undermine hat government from within.

A steady barrage of inflammatory propaganda, of false promises, lies, infiltration, sabotage, intimidation, guerrilla warfare, terrorism — these are the principal weapons in the arsenal of the ugly business of subversion. Employment of such weapons, or tactics, is abhorrent to free peoples; our principles, our sense of decency, would not permit us to use such methods. But the Communist leaders have no compunction about using them, although they must realize it signifies a weakness on their part. They have to resort to such tactics because they cannot otherwise persuade people to follow them and the tactics of terrorism are not pleasant to contemplate.

It is all very well to say that no free people, if the issue were presented to them fairly and squarely, would choose Communism. But it is not the Communist way to present the issue in a straightforward manner. They are adept at taking the indirect approach, at playing on the feelings of simple and gullible people, at inflaming legitimate grievances and turning them to their own use.

SEATO projects

It is action against this sort of campaign, this type of indirect or covert aggression, which SEATO emphasizes as its second principal area of responsibility. Under the terms of the Manila Pact, it is the *other* aspect of defence against Communist aggression — that phase concerned with economic and social development. The Treaty states the need. A wide range of SEATO projects illustrate the implementation.

Many of you are familiar with the scope and variety of SEATO projects, so I will not describe them in detail here. I wish simply to list a few examples. I have in mind such activities as our contribution to and participation in the work of the Community Development Centre in Ubol in North-East Thailand; our work in the Hill Tribes Training and Research Centre in Chiengmai in North Thailand; our leading role in the development of skilled labour through special projects in Thailand, Pakistan and the Philippines; the world-famed SEATO Graduate School of Engineering here in Bangkok; the truly remarkable work of the SEATO Medical Laboratory and Clinical Research Centre here in Bangkok and the Cholera Research Laboratory in East Pakistan. There is also the SEATO Meteorological Telecommunications project, designed to improve the systems for gathering meteorological and aeronautical information in Thailand and the Philippines.

SEATO has also sponsored a number and variety of seminars in Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand. Subjects covered have ranged from counter-subversion to community development, from apprentice training to a conference of Heads of Universities in the Asian member countries. One of the results of the conference was the signing in Manila during the commemoration of SEATO Day last September 8 of a Convention on University Equivalences. Under this agreement, Asian

member countries grant full course credit for students and scholars transferring from one to another of their colleges and universities. This is the first convention of its kind in Asia, and to me is an important milestone along the path to a better and more diversified educational program for the area.

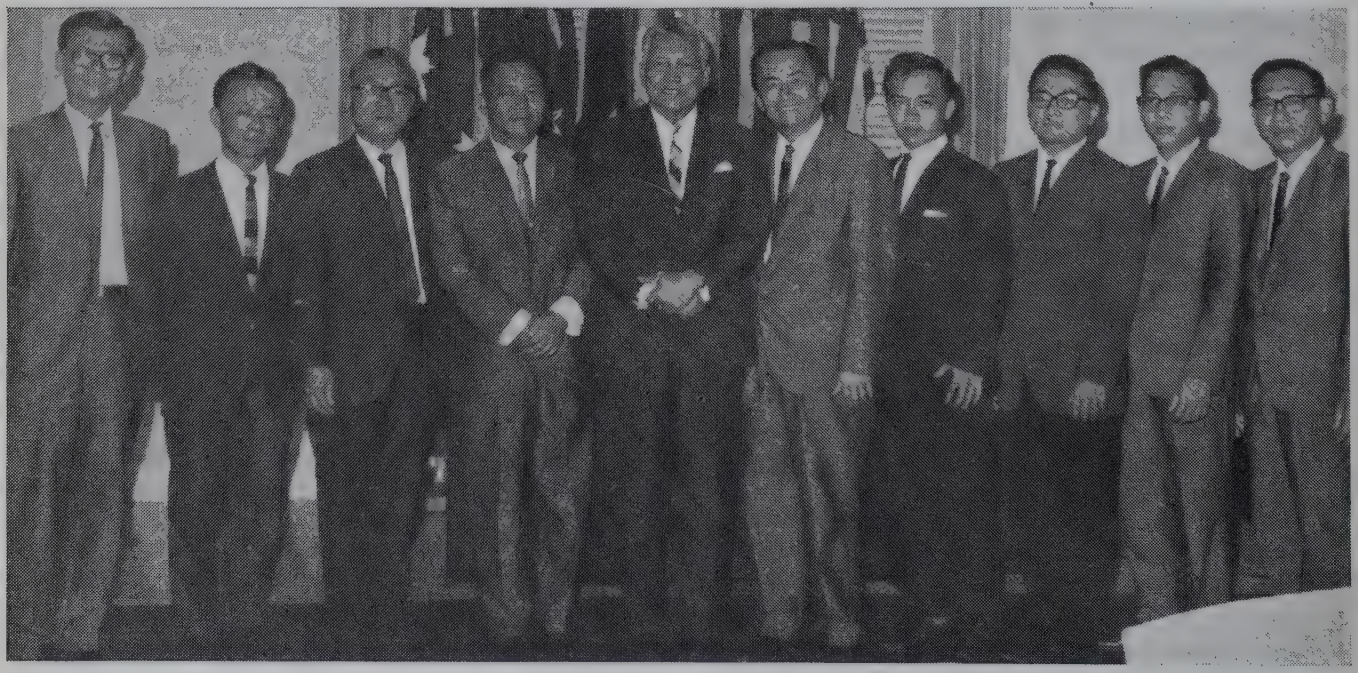
Our very active cultural affairs program has served as an important means of fostering cooperation and understanding among the peoples of the member countries. Under this activity SEATO professorships are maintained at universities in Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand; research fellowships are awarded annually; post-graduate and undergraduate scholarships are arranged and travelling lectureships are sponsored. And a series of conferences and surveys are sponsored each year.

All of the activities I have mentioned, and others, have made their mark in helping to create a better life for the people of South-East Asia, by assisting to raise the level of health, education and the economic status of citizens of the area.

I look upon all these activities as a continuing and increasingly successful frontal assault on some of the many problems facing SEATO member nations, particularly those situated in the strategically important area of South-East Asia. It is this frontal assault, combining the skills, talents and resources of free nations acting together to promote their well-being and to increase standards of health, education and life in general, which will provide the strongest defence against the blandishments and importunings of Communist propagandists, agitators and global planners. Security is essential, but progress in the areas I have listed is imperative. For it is axiomatic that military strength alone is insufficient today to ensure national security. Backing the Armed Forces must be a strong economy coupled with social progress, otherwise tendencies towards poverty and general dissatisfaction will pre-dispose a country towards the cancerous inroads of Communism.

Points of attack

In Asian countries it is often in the poorest and most backward areas that the Communists seek to establish their base, first for terrorism and later, armed insurrection. These are the areas where their agents can most effectively exploit grievances, and where their propaganda finds its most fertile soil. However rapidly a country may be making economic and social progress, the loyalties of the people of an area subject to subversion and infiltration will not be retained if they do not directly share in the benefits of progress. Just as the Communists have singled them out for special attention, so must we make special efforts to ensure that they share, in their own daily lives, the advances that are being made by their fellow-coun-



Philippine goodwill mission of businessmen touring South-East Asia called on SEATO Secretary-General Jesus Vargas. Members of the group are shown here with the Secretary-General (fifth from left). Leader of the party, Mr. Antonio Roxas Chua, is on Gen. Vargas left.

trymen. For in this way they too will gain the confidence and faith that we have in freedom as the path to progress.

We in SEATO will continue our enphasis on that two-fold purpose of our existence: military planning for defence against overt, direct Communist aggression, and assistance in countering subversion as a defence against covert, indirect aggression.

SEATO was born from the determination of its eight member nations to ensure the conditions of security necessary for peaceful progress and development. SEATO was formed to counter the threat of Communist aggression in the area. When that threat has been eliminated, SEATO will be superfluous. Until it is, SEATO is essential.

CENTO Communique

The Council of Ministers of the Central Treaty Organization (CENTO) held their fourteenth session in Ankara on April 20 and 21, 1966. Leaders of the five delegations were:

H.E. Mr. Abbas Aram	Foreign Minister of Iran
H.E. Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto	Foreign Minister of Pakistan
H.E. Mr. Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil	Foreign Minister of Turkey
The Right Honourable Michael Stewart, M.P.	Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, United Kingdom
The Honourable Dean Rusk	Secretary of State, United States of America

A message of welcome from the President of Turkey was read at the opening of the meeting. The leaders of the national delegations expressed their appreciation for the message and of the warm hospitality extended by the Turkish Government.

The Foreign Minister of Turkey, as host, was in the chair. He welcomed the delegations on behalf of the Turkish Government. Mr. Caglayangil was in turn welcomed by the other members to his first meeting of the Council since he became Foreign Minister.

The Council expressed its deep regret at the continued illness of the former President of Turkey, General Cemal Gursel, and paid tribute to his distinguished services to Turkey, as a soldier and as a statesman.

Engaging in a wide-ranging exchange of views on international developments since its last meeting in Tehran, the Council agreed that the need for collective security is imperative in present world circumstances. They reaffirmed their determination to maintain the defensive strength of CENTO. The Council recognized that threats of subversion and aggression against the countries of the region still remained. In this regard the Foreign Minister of Iran drew the Council's attention to subversive activities in the Persian Gulf area. The Ministers reaffirmed their sincere desire to contribute to the utmost to the reduction of international tensions and to measures of disarmament and the strengthening of peace.

The Council reviewed the report of the Military Committee which included a report on CENTO's joint military exercises. They discussed suggestions for further strengthening of the mutual defence potential of the alliance.

Taking into consideration existing Treaties, Ministers expressed their deep concern over the continuation of the Cyprus conflict with all its inherent dangers. They also expressed their earnest desire for an agreed settlement which would preserve peace in the island in accordance with the legitimate interests of all its peoples.

The Ministers deplored the outbreak of hostilities between India and Pakistan. The agreement to a ceasefire was welcomed as a step towards the "peaceful settlement of the outstanding differences between the two countries on Kashmir and other related matters", contemplated in the Security Council's Resolution of September 20, 1965, and the Tashkent Declaration.

The United States Secretary of State and the British Foreign Secretary gave the Council full accounts of recent developments in Viet-Nam and Rhodesia respectively.

Pleasure was expressed at the accelerated economic development of the Regional Countries through their own efforts, and the Council was pleased to note the extent to which CENTO had been able to contribute to the strengthening of the region through sponsorship of joint economic projects, its cultural program and the opportunities it was able to provide for people of the CENTO countries to meet, confer and work together on productive joint enterprises.

In approving the report of the Economic Committee, the Council noted that a number of major joint communications projects have been completed and are already in operation. The significant contribution they are making to the CENTO area was symbolized during the meeting when members of the Council participated in the formal dedication of the CENTO Microwave System. The Ministers expressed pleasure at the very

great increase in telephonic communication that has taken place since the 3,060-mile system was opened to traffic in June last. The Council also noted the completion of the CENTO road linking Turkey with Iran, and that both the CENTO Airway and the CENTO High Frequency Telecommunications Link joining London with key regional cities would be completed this year.

The Ministers approved new directions to guide CENTO's economic activities in the years ahead as submitted by the Economic Committee and congratulated the Committee on their constructive and realistic recommendations.

The Ministers approved priority for public health measures which have been or will be selected for attention by CENTO in coordination with other international organizations including measures for the control of epidemic diseases in the area.

The Council agreed that the proposal to expand and intensify CENTO's Multilateral Technical Cooperation Program should advance the basic CENTO economic objective of increasing the technical self-sufficiency of the region.

The Council decided that their next meeting would be held in London in April, 1967. (CENTO)

DEFENCE

Exercise 'Sea Imp'

Naval forces of SEATO member nations took part in a combined maritime defence exercise in the South China Sea in May and June.

The exercise, code-named SEA IMP, employed more than 40 naval vessels of SEATO member nations. Aircraft carriers and submarines were included in the operation in which naval and landbased aircraft also participated.

Forces taking part in the exercise assembled in the Philippines in the period up to May 19. Following a variety of training activities, a convoy operation started from Manila on May 28 and ended in the Gulf of Thailand on June 6.

Rear Admiral C.P. Mills, Flag Officer, Second-in-Command of the British Far East Fleet was exercise director. His deputy was Rear Admiral R.M. Isaman of the United States Navy.

Exercise SEA IMP is the 30th combined defence exercise conducted by SEATO member nations since the Organization was formed in 1954.

New Military Adviser

Lt. Gen. Sir John Wilton

Lieutenant General Sir John Wilton, KBE, CB, DSO, Chief of the Australian General Staff, took up the appointment of Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee in the Department of Defence for a period of two years on May 19, 1966. Sir John also became concurrently the Australian Military Adviser to SEATO.

He succeeded Air Chief Marshal Sir Frederick Scherger, KBE, CB, DSO, AFC, who served almost five years in the appointment and who retired from the Royal Australian Air Force after 42 years of distinguished service.

Lieutenant General Wilton is the fourth appointee and the second Army officer in the office of Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee, which was established in March 1958. Holders of the office prior to Air Chief Marshal Scherger were Lieutenant General Sir Henry Wells and Vice Admiral Sir Roy Dowling.

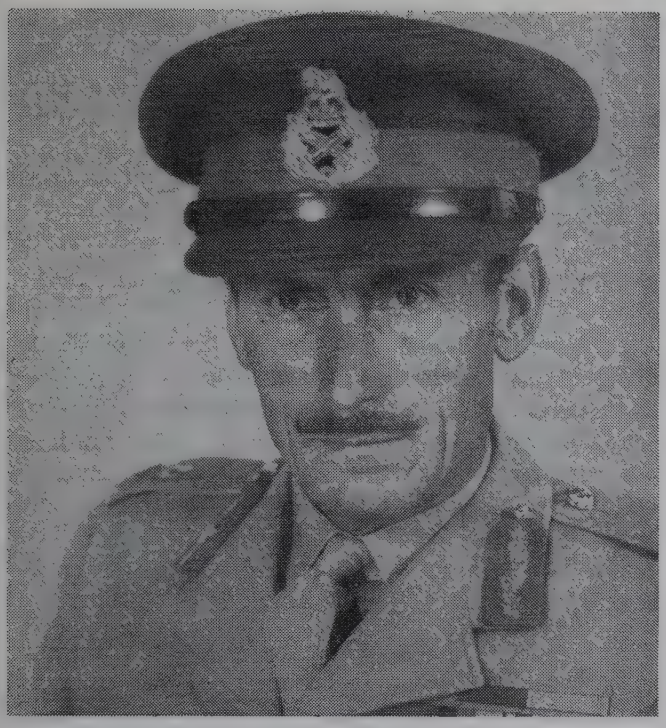
As Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee Lieutenant General Wilton coordinates the military aspects of joint Service policy and planning and advises the Minister and Department of Defence on matters within this field.

Lieutenant General Wilton graduated from the Royal Military College, Duntroon, in 1930. His early service was with the British Army in India. Returning to Australia just before the Second World War he served with distinction in the A.I.F. in the Middle East and South-West Pacific Area. He was awarded the DSO, and OBE and was mentioned in despatches. In the latter part of the war he was on the staff of the Australian Military Mission in Washington.

Post-war appointments included Director of Military Operations and Plans, Army Headquarters; Brigadier in charge of Administration, Eastern Command; Commander, 28th British Commonwealth Infantry Brigade, Korea; Commandant, Royal Military College, Duntroon; Chief, SEATO Military Planning Office (1960-62).

Lieutenant General Wilton attended the Imperial Defence College in 1952. He received the CBE for his service in Korea.

He was appointed Chief of the General Staff and First Military Member of the Military Board on January, 21, 1963, and became a Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire in the New Year's Honours List, 1964.



Sir John Wilton

NZ, Aust. Agree on Forces Aid to VN

Australia and New Zealand have agreed on the necessity of keeping forces in South Viet-Nam to help repel armed Communist aggression. This was stated on May 9 in Wellington in a joint communique after talks held between the Australian Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Hasluck and the New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr. K.J. Holyoake.

The statement said both governments considered it would be an inadequate response to South Viet-Nam's appeal for help if they simply contributed to social and economic aid. Both countries were convinced that the only just settlement in Viet-Nam would be one which preserved the right of the people of South Viet-Nam to decide their own future, free from the threat of outside military pressure and subversion.

Speaking to correspondents afterwards, Mr. Hasluck said Britain had recently reaffirmed that it intended to remain in the Far East. Mr. Hasluck said the Australian view was that Britain should stay in the Far East and she would have more effect on the area's security if she stayed on the Asian mainland. (Radio Australia).

Maj. Gen. T.J. Daly, and Brigadier E.G. McNamara of the Australian Army attended a three-day New Zealand Army exercise in April. (NZIS).

Pakistan C-in-C

Major-General Yahya Khan has been designated to succeed General Mohammad Musa as Commander-in-Chief of the Pakistan Army. General's Musa's term expries on October 27, 1966.

In making the announcement, the President of Pakistan, Field Marshal Mohammad Ayub Khan, also approved the promotion of Maj. Gen. Yahya Khan to the rank of lieutenant-general, and his appointment as Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Army. (PIS).

'PLUMS FOR PICKING'

The New Zealand Minister of Defence, Mr. Dean J. Eyre, said in an Anzac Day address on April 25 that unless Australia and New Zealand maintained adequate defences, they would be "a pair of ripe plums ready for the picking."

"It would be folly," he said, "not to do everything possible to protect ourselves and our friends in the South-East Asian and Pacific area."

Describing the Pacific as "an area of survival" Mr. Eyre added: "Once our fate was decided in Europe, and our share was only that of a minor partner. Now it's on our front doorstep."

He said the threat of Communist China to Australia and New Zealand might not be an immediate one, but it would undeniably remain for a long time. (Radio Australia).

President Marcos said on May 2 that Philippine Air Force strength will be increased this year. Speaking before PAF officers and men, and special guests, at Nichols Air Base, he indicated that more jet fighters, helicopters and light aircraft will be delivered this year by the United States under the mutual defence agreement. (Phil. IS).

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A high-level conference of the American, British, Canadian and Australian armies was held in April at the Army Staff College, Camberley, England. Progress and problems in standardization of procedures, weapons, equipment and logistics were discussed. The New Zealand Army, as an associate member, was represented by an observer. (AIS).

* * *

The Royal Thai Air Force will shortly equip a squadron with F-5 supersonic aircraft supplied by the United States under its military assistance program for Thailand. (PRD).

New CMPO Appointed

The SEATO Military Advisers have agreed to the appointment of Major General Abhichart Dhiradhamrong of Thailand as Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office.

He replaces Major-General H.A. Prince, CBE, of the United Kingdom, who completes a two-year appointment on July 1.

Major-General Abhichart, who was born in 1922, is a graduate of the Royal Thai Military Academy. He completed various courses at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, and later graduated from the Command and General Staff College at Fort Wm. McKinley in the Philippines. He served in Korea in 1950.

In 1956 he graduated from the Command and General Staff College, Bangkok. This was followed by an assignment in the SEATO Affairs Division of the Directorate of Operations, Royal Thai Army, and in 1960 he was appointed Representative of the Thai Military Adviser at SEATO Headquarters. Following his three-year term at the SEATO Military Planning Office, he became Chief of the Policy and Plans Division, Directorate of Joint Operations, Supreme Command Headquarters.

Major-General Abhichart graduated from the Thai Armed Forces Staff College in 1964. His last 10 years of service have been largely involved in planning for military operations and SEATO military exercises. He also obtained a Master's Degree (Hon.) in Public Administration from Thammasart University in 1962.

Defence Briefs

President Ferdinand Marcos has ordered the Philippine Department of National Defense to organize seven more engineering construction battalions for civic action projects. An appropriation of $5.75 million is proposed for the battalions which will be engaged in building roads. irrigation and other public works. One battalion has already been assigned to the construction of the Manila north diversion road, and another to the Manila south road. (Phil. IS).

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The frigate HMS Blackpool is to be leased by the Royal New Zealand Navy from the Royal Navy. The ship will join the Commonwealth Strategic Reserve at Singapore, replacing HMNZS Otago. (NZIS).

* * *

Brigadier Oliver D. Jackson has been appointed Commander of the Australian Army's 1st Task Force in Viet-Nam. He is at present Commander of the Australian Army Force, Viet-Nam. Brigadier K. Mackay, Director of Military Operations and Plans, becomes Commander, Australian Force, Viet-Nam with the rank of major-general. (AIS).

* * *

In the period leading up to the opening of schools this month, 314 prefabricated school buildings were erected in 29 provinces by engineers of the Philippine Armed Forces. The units brought to 11,349 the number of pre-fab schoolhouses prepared by the Armed Forces and shipped to rural areas in need of them. In April, 800 applications for pre-fab schoolhouses were being processed, and it was expected that another 600 units would be ready this year. (Phil. IS).

* * *

Australia will place an order this year for ten American PB3 Orion maritime reconnaissance aircraft.

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Three Australian naval ships, the aircraft carrier Melbourne, frigate Yarra and fast fleet replenishment tanker Supply, have joined the Commonwealth Strategic Reserve in South-East Asian waters and will take part in Commonwealth and SEATO exercises. (AIS).

UK DEFENCE PLANS ANNOUNCED

Excerpts from the British Government's Defence Review, which was published on February 22 as a White Paper.

Military strength is of little value if it is achieved at the expense of economic health. To continue spending over 7 per cent of the Gross National Product on defence would be seriously damaging to Britain's economy, at a time when we need a rapid increase in production so that we can export more and import less; when industry must be re-equipped and modernized; and when we are running into a shortage of manpower. We plan, therefore, to bring our defence expenditure down to a stable level of about 6 per cent of the Gross National Product by 1967-70, thereby improving our ability to compete successfully with other exporting countries.

The Government, therefore, set a financial target of £2,000m. ($5,600m) at 1964 prices, to be reached in 1969-70. In other words, we intend that our program three years from now should not cost more in real terms than that of two years ago. This means a reduction of 16 per cent on the expenditure which the previous Government contemplated for 1969-70. Some progress towards this goal was made by the changes in the equipment program which we announced more than a year ago. On August 5, 1965, we reported that we had managed to get more than half way to our target for 1969-70 without reducing our ability to carry out the present scale of military tasks. The defence review is already having its effect on current expenditure. At constant prices the estimates for 1966-67 fall below the target figure of £2,000 m.

But these changes, though achieving a major cut in expenditure without any loss in military efficiency and thereby relieving the burden on the nation's resources, do nothing to reduce the excessive cost of defence in foreign exchange. Nor do they contribute to solving the second major problem which led the Government to undertake the defence review — the over-stretch of our military manpower.

Although our political commitments have become fewer in recent years, larger military tasks have been imposed by those that remain, because the military power of certain countries has been increased over the same period, particularly by supplies of advanced equipment from abroad. As a result, the bulk of our fighting forces outside Europe have been permanently tied down in operational tasks all over the world. On several occasions, no units of the strategic reserve have been immediately available in Britain. We have thus been compelled to make use of our right to withdraw forces committed under the Brussels Treaty to serve in Germany, in order to meet temporary needs overseas.

The services have responded to a succession of unforeseen contingencies with patient efficiency. But the cost has been high. Men in all three Services have been required to work long hours in difficult conditions and to serve for long periods abroad, often without their families.

In these conditions, both recruiting and re-engagement have fallen short of the targets set; this in turn has increased the strain on our already over-stretched Services. Such over-stretch has the most damaging consequences in our defence policy as a whole. Besides restricting our military ability to meet the unforeseen, it limits our political freedom to adjust our defence program from time to time as circumstances change. Even a relatively small contraction in our present defence effort will mean that we must relinquish some of our present commitments overseas. In planning to close the gap of £180m. ($504m.) in 1969-70, which still remained last August, we set out not only to decide which political commitments we must give up or share with others, but also to limit the scale of military tasks which may be imposed by the commitments which remain.

Britain's military role

Defence must be the servant of foreign policy, not its master. Military forces must be designed accordingly. At the same time, developments in weapons technology, by changing the nature of military strategy and tactics, constantly influence the options which are open to a Government in its foreign policy.

We are compelled to plan the main features of our defence policy a decade ahead; it takes at least 10 years to develop and introduce a major new weapon system, and at least five years to produce base facilities abroad. And yet there can never be certainty either about political or technological developments in the intervening period. Defence policy, therefore, has to be based on assumptions which must be constantly revised and are less certain the further we look ahead.

At the same time, the Government must take some firm decisions based on the best predictions it can make. Otherwise, it will waste its resources by ill-judged attempts to prepare for too wide a range of contingencies, and will fail to prepare properly for any. Above all, the Government can, and must, decide in broad terms what sort of role Britain should play in the world in 10 years' time, and what part its military forces should play in supporting that role. In short, it has to decide what sort of military capability is likely to make political sense.

Recent history underlines the importance to Britain, as to all other countries, of strengthening the United Nations as the main instrument for keeping peace. It remains a major aim of British policy to enable the United Nations to take on more in the years to come.

Most great Powers now realize that their own security can only be safeguarded in the long run by halting the international arms race. The trend of military technology suggests that the survival of humanity itself will soon depend on making progress towards general and complete disarmament. But this will not be brought about overnight. Meanwhile we must seek limited measures of disarmament and arms control to reduce the dangers of the present situation. The most urgent and immediate problem is to stop the further spread of nuclear weapons. We accordingly aim to internationalize our nuclear strategic forces in order to discourage further proliferation and to strengthen the alliance.

The conventional arms race among the smaller powers continues unchecked, posing grave dangers for their economic development and political stability. Here again, the only certain solution would be an international agreement to control both the production and supply of armaments. This too, remains a major aim of British policy.

Meanwhile, we cannot safely base our defence policy for the 1970s on the assumption that our objectives will have been attained in full. We must be ready to continue living in a world in which the United Nations has not yet assumed effective responsibility for keeping the peace, and the arms race has not yet been halted.

In such a world, the first purpose of our armed forces will be to defend the freedom of the British people. The security of these islands still depends primarily on preventing war in Europe. For this reason, we regard the continuation of the North Atlantic Alliance as vital to our survival.

Dr. John Gerring, New Zealand veterinarian in Thailand as a Colombo Plan adviser, visited the veterinary department of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory. He is shown here talking to Captain Richard O. Spertzel, acting director of the veterinary department, in the laboratory's animal house.

At first sight, a direct threat to our survival seems less likely outside Europe. Although we have important economic interests in the Middle East, Asia and elsewhere, military force is not the most suitable means of protecting them, and they would not alone justify heavy British defence expenditure. We have, however, a number of obligations, which we cannot relinquish unilaterally or at short notice; some of these obligations will still exist in the 1970s. But, in addition, Britain shares with other countries a general interest in seeing peace maintained, so far as possible, throughout the world. It is this interest above all which justifies our military presence outside Europe.

Much of Africa, the Middle East and Asia is going through a period of revolutionary change, which may sometimes spill across international frontiers. In recent years, the threat to peace has been far greater outside Europe than within it. When such instability leads to open war it may imperil not only economic interests in the area, but even world peace. Great Powers may be tempted to intervene and to collide with one another as they intervene. On more than one occasion in the recent past, we have seen how local conflict in a faraway country has threatened to embroil the major powers in a direct confrontation, directly endangering world peace.

Britain's forces outside Europe can help to reduce this danger. Recent experience in Africa and elsewhere has shown that our ability to give rapid help to friendly governments, with even small British forces, can prevent large-scale catastrophies. In some parts of the world, the visible presence of British forces by itself is a deterrent to local conflict. No country with a sense of international responsibility would surrender this position without good reason, unless it was satisfied that others could, and would, assume a similar role.

Nevertheless, to maintain all our current military tasks and capabilities outside Europe would impose an unacceptable strain on our overstretched forces, and bear too heavily both on our domestic economy and on our reserves of foreign exchange. For all these reasons we have decided that, while Britain should retain a major military capability outside Europe, she should in future be subject to certain general limitations. First, Britain will not undertake major operations of war except in cooperation with allies. Secondly, we will not accept an obligation to provide another country with military assistance unless it is prepared to provide us with the facilities we need to make such assistance effective in time. Finally, there will be no attempt to maintain defence facilities in an independent country against its wishes.

We have a direct responsibility for Gibraltar and a defence agreement with Malta. We also have a treaty with Libya, an obligation to support CENTO and responsibilities in Cyprus. We shall continue to discharge these responsibilities and obligations while making substantial economies in our contingents in Cyprus and Malta.

Middle East and Far East

Further east, we shall continue to honour our commitments to our allies and to play our proper part in defending the interests of the free world. But the load must be more equitably shared than in the past; and we shall aim to make significant economies by deploying our forces more realistically in accordance with the political circumstances in which they are likely to operate.

It is in the Far East and Southern Asia that the greatest danger to peace may lie in the next decade, and some of our partners in the Commonwealth may be directly threatened. We believe it is right that Britain should continue to maintain a military presence in this area. Its effectiveness will turn largely on the arrangements we can make with our Commonwealth partners and other allies in the coming years. As soon as conditions permit, we shall make some reductions in the forces which we keep in the area. We have important military facilities in Malaysia and Singapore, as have our Australian and New Zealand partners. These we plan to retain for as long as the Governments of Malaysia and Singapore agree that we should do so on acceptable conditions. Against the day when it may no longer be possible for us to use these facilities freely we have begun to discuss with the Government of Australia the practical possibilities of our having military facilities in that country if necessary.

Equipment of the forces

Against the background of the political commitments and military tasks which it foresees, the Government has been able to take some major decisions on the equipment of our forces. The main object has been to strike a balance between quantity and quality. Our forces must always possess enough of the arms and equipment required for the day-to-day tasks of peacekeeping throughout the world: it is also essential that they should have some advanced weapons which can deter potential enemies from raising the level of a local conflict to a degree which might threaten world peace. We are determined to maintain a proper balance of capability in both these fields.

The Royal Navy will exploit the most modern technologies, particularly in nuclear propulsion and guided-missiles. When the Polaris-carrying nuclear-powered submarine force becomes fully operational in 1969-70 the Royal Navy will take over from the Royal Air Force full responsibility for the British contribution to the nuclear forces of the NATO alliance. The running cost of the Polaris force will be under 2 per cent of the total defence budget. By the early 1970s, we reckon to have in service also four nuclear-propelled hunter-killer submarines, which, with their long endurance and immunity to detection, will be a formidable part of our anti-submarine defences. We shall complete the conversion of the Tiger-class cruisers to carry anti-submarine helicopters and we are planning a new type of ship to succeed them. We shall shortly order the first of a new, more powerful, class of guided-missile ship — the Type 82 destroyer — to be equipped with the surface-to-air guided-weapon Seadart, the Ikara anti-submarine weapon, and the new Anglo-Dutch radar. We shall develop a small surface-to-surface guided-weapon for use against missile-firing ships. Our amphibious fleet — the commando ships and assault ships carrying Royal Marine commandos — will greatly strengthen our forces outside Europe.

The present carrier force will continue well into

the 1970s; but we shall not build a new carrier (CVA 01).

There are limitations on the use of our present forces. These limitations are likely to grow more severe. This has been the background to our assessment of the case for keeping a British carrier force in the Far East in the 1970s. Experience and study have shown that only one type of operation exists for which carriers and carrier-borne aircraft would be indispensable: that is the landing, or withdrawal, of troops against sophisticated opposition outside the range of land-based air cover. It is only realistic to recognize that we, unaided by our allies, could not expect to undertake operations of this character in the 1970s — even if we could afford a larger carrier force.

But the best carrier force we could manage to have in future would be very small. The force of five carriers . . . will reduce to three in a few years' time. Even if CVA 01 were built, the force would be limited to three ships through the 1970s. The total cost of such a force would be some £1,400m ($3,920m) over a 10-year period. For this price, we should be able to have only one carrier permanently stationed in the Far East, with another normally available up to 15 days' notice. We do not believe that this could give a sufficient operational return for our expenditure.

We also believe that the tasks for which carrier-borne aircraft might be required in the later 1970s, can be more cheaply performed in other ways. Our plan is that in future, aircraft operating from land bases should take over the strike-reconnaissance and air-defence functions of the carrier on the reduced scale which we envisage that our commitments will require after the mid-1970s. Close anti-submarine protection of the naval force will be given by helicopters operating from ships other than carriers. Air-borne early-warning aircraft will continue to be operated from existing carriers, and subsequently from land bases. Strike capability against enemy ships will be provided by the surface-to-surface guided-missile mentioned above.

In order to give time to reshape the Navy and to reprovide the necessary parts of the carriers' capability, we attach great importance to continuing the existing carrier force as far as possible into the 1970s.

Canberra aircraft replacement

The key to the deterrent power of our armed forces is our ability to obtain early warning of an enemy's intentions through reconnaissance and to strike at his offensive forces from a distance in case of need. This role has been assigned to the Canberra aircraft since the early 1950s; this aircraft cannot safely continue after 1970. By the mid-1970s we intend that the Anglo-French variable-geometry aircraft should begin to take over this and other roles. Both operationally and industrially, this aircraft is the core of our longterm aircraft program. But, if the Royal Air Force is not to be lacking in a most critical part of its capability for some five years, some arrangement must be made for bridging this gap. We have therefore decided to buy 50 of the F 111A aircraft from the United States. Until the Anglo-French variable geometry aircraft is available, the F 111A will be supplemented in the strike role by the V-bombers, which will cease to form part of our contribution to the strategic forces of the alliance when the Polaris submarines come into service.

No other aircraft can be available by 1970 to match the performance of the F111A. We have now decided to place an immediate order for 10 F 111As, to be followed by April, 1967, with an order for 40 more.

We are guaranteed full delivery of the 50 F 111As not later than January, 1970. The ceiling unit price for the basic aircraft — $5,950,000 — covering the production costs and a contribution to the United States research and development costs, will apply to the total purchase, and this will be met by credit terms spread up to 1977.

We have taken steps to ensure that the foreign exchange cost of the F 111A will be fully offset by sales of British equipment. Arrangements have been made for British firms to compete without discrimination for United States defence contracts for items of equipment and supply jointly identified by the two Governments, and target totals for United Kingdom have been agreed: progress in meeting these targets will be reviewed annually. As a first step, the United States Government will extend to Britain the opportunity to tender for the construction of naval auxiliaries to the value of some $50m.

The French Government have been informed of our decision. We have given them our firm assurance that it will not affect the Anglo-French program for the development of the variable-geometry aircraft or for the development of a short-range strike and trainer aircraft, known as the Jaguar.

Fighter and ground attack aircraft

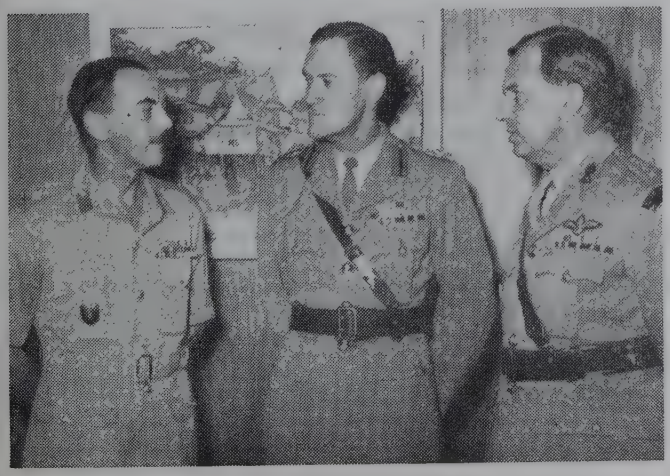
In the next few years, the Javelin will disappear as more Lightnings come into service.

The ground-attack and short-range Army-support aircraft is the Hunter, which will have to be replaced by 1970. We plan to use a combination of American Phantoms and the British V.T.O.L. P1127. We shall later be taking a strike version of the Anglo-French Jaguar in order to release Phantoms to replace the Lightning.

The long-range maritime-reconnaissance force consists of Shackleton Mk. 2 and 3. The Shackleton Mk. 2s are to be replaced by a version of the Comet specially developed for the maritime role. There is now a firm production commitment for this aircraft, which will come into service at the end of the 1960s.

Our strategy will rely increasingly on air mobility as overseas bases diminish. The only change to the existing plans for the strategic transport force is the use of some C130s to make good shortcomings in the performance of the Belfast. We shall make a substantial improvement in our helicopter lift.

The program provides for continued production in the United Kingdom of the Lightning, Belfast, VC 10, Buccaneer, Andover, Bassett and Jet Provost. Apart from the C 130 and the F 111A, all the aircraft for which specific new types are proposed will be equipped with British engines. The British share in the production of the Phantom has reached 45 per cent. The Ministry of Defence will also be paying the British aerospace industry about £130m. ($364m.) a year over the next 10 years for spares, maintenance. and repair work. There will be a further development of the Buccaneer MK. 2 in order to fit the air-to-ground missile, AJ 168, and there will be major new aircraft programs for British industry in the Anglo-French variable-geometry aircraft, and Anglo-French Jaguar strike and trainer aircraft, the P1127 and the maritime Comet. We intend a steady expansion of sales of British aircraft and equipment.



Newly appointed New Zealand Military Adviser's Representative at SEATO Headquarters, Col. N.R. Ingle (centre) meets the Chief, SEATO Military Planning Office, Major-General H.A. Prince. At right is Lt. Col. R.H. Dyson, a New Zealand military planner.

We have completed a review of home defence. We have decided to restrict our civil defence preparations to those which would be likely to contribute significantly to national survival. We have also decided to establish a Home Defence Force to supplement, in the event of nuclear attack, the substantial numbers of regulars and reserve forces which would normally be in this country.

Conclusion

To sum up, we have planned a reduction in the tasks which we shall undertake in the 1970s, and we have taken major decisions about our arms and equipment. We have started the reorganization of our reserve forces. Plans will be made for adjusting the size of the Services in the longer term in the light of the progress we make in cutting our commitments.

The decisions which we have taken in the course of the defence review point the way to reaching our target in 1969-70 itself. We shall keep expenditure as steady as possible in the intervening years and in the 1970s. We have always recognized that the defence review must be a continuing process and a permanent part of our policy-making.

As far as commitments are concerned, we shall be able to keep our contribution in Europe at roughly its present level, but only if some means is found of meeting the foreign exchange costs. We shall make substantial savings in the Mediterranean, but will discharge our commitments in the area, including those to Libya and CENTO. In the Middle East we shall give up the base at Aden and disengage ourselves until we have reached the hard core of our obligations to the States in the Persian Gulf. In the Far East we intend to play a substantial and constructive role in keeping the peace, always in close collaboration with our allies and Commonwealth partners: but some limitations will be applied to the scale and nature of our military effort there.

The forces which we shall get with the reduced defence budget will be modern, flexible, and effective. We shall possess, with our aircraft and Polaris submarines, substantial strategic power to contribute to international arrangements. Our forces in Europe will enable us to share fully in supporting a realistic strategy in

NATO. We shall be able to cover our defence and internal security tasks arising in protected and dependent territories, and to support United Nations operations when required. The nuclear-powered submarines, the Type 82 destroyers and the F111A and Phantom aircraft will be among the most advanced military equipment in the world and will act as a strong deterrent to limited war. Our Army units, helicopters, frigates, and amphibious forces will have great value in the day-to-day task of keeping the peace.

In short, we have been able to make significant savings of money and foreign exchange in return for a comparatively small reduction of our military capacity. As the pattern of our commitments is adjusted, we shall relax the strain on our force without sacrificing the speed of our reaction in a crisis. If the price of defence today is high, at least we shall be getting value for money. (BIS).

President Marcos has conferred on American astronauts Walter Schirra Jr. and Frank Borman the Phillippine Legion of Honor, rank of commander, "for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service to humanity." He also conferred on them the rating of honorary command pilots in the Philippine Air Force. (Phil. IS).

Visiting Thailand in April, New Zealand's Minister of Defence, Mr. Dean J. Eyre is shown here (right) watching a crankshaft rebuild operator at work at the Vehicle Rebuild Workshop, a joint Thai-Australian SEATO project near Bangkok. Others in photo, are: Lt. General L.W. Thornton, Chief of New Zealand Defence Staff, and Air Vice Marshal Chamrat Vinagupta, workshop director.

NZ MINISTER'S TOUR

The New Zealand Minister of Defence, Mr. Dean J. Eyre, accompanied by Mrs. Eyre and the Chief of the New Zealand Defence Staff, Lt. Gen. L.W. Thornton, made a four-day official visit to Thailand from March 28 to April 1.

Touring countries in South-East Asia where New Zealand forces are stationed, Mr. Eyre said on his arrival at Bangkok that New Zealand supports SEATO in its task of maintaining peace in South-East Asia and fully realises the gravity of the threats to the South-East Asian region.

Mr. Eyre inspected the road-building project recently begun by New Zealand Army engineers in Mahasarakham province, and the SEATO Vehicle Rebuild Workshop at Rangsit.

He called on SEATO Secretary-General Jesus Vargas at SEATO Headquarters in Bangkok, and was received by the Prime Minister, the Minister of National Development, and the Deputy Minister of Defence. (PRD).

Australian Returned Servicemen's League is to establish a commemorative fund to provide annual scholarships in Australia for Asian students. First scholarships will be awarded to students from South Viet-Nam. (AIS).

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Ships of the Australian and United States navies, and Australian and US service aircraft took part in two joint exercises off the New South Wales coast in March. Anti-aircraft detection and defence systems were tested. (AIS).

* * *

New Zealand has begun negotiations for a loan from the Import-Export Bank, an agency of the US Government, for the purchase of American defence equipment. (NZIS).

Naval tanker refuelling the aircraft carrier Clemenceau and the cruiser Colbert on the high seas.

THE FRENCH NAVY AND ITS BASES

by Georges Marey

The French Navy, as part of the general modernization of the armed forces and reshaping of millitary dispositions overseas has begun the rebuilding of its worldwide network of sea and fleet air bases.

A quick glance at world maritime history is enough to show the important role of bases in strategic or tactical terms in each epoch, and their essential importance in the life of navies in peacetime and even more in time of war.

Such bases which are located in carefully chosen ports, well defended by sea and land, put at the disposal of national or allied fleets all the facilities they require to accomplish their tasks. These facilities include the means of refuelling, munitions, food and water supply, repair or construction yards, arsenals, industrial plants, hospital, recreation, education and training facilities, all under naval command.

Of course, all bases do not possess a uniform and complete range of resources; that is unnecessary. It is enough that taken together they constitute a coherent and properly-graded whole. As far as the French Navy is concerned, there are four types of base: main bases, secondary bases, outlying stations, and ports of call.

A main base must be able to accommodate and supply completely an operational force. This is the case with Brest and Toulon, which are, respectively, the headquarters of the 2nd and 3rd naval regions, and the bases of the Atlantic and Mediterranean squadrons.

Brest, on the North Atlantic, is a training and maintenance base for the Atlantic squadron. It is, furthermore, specially equipped for aircraft carriers of the *Clemenceau* type, for helicopter carriers, for escort vessels equipped with "Tartar" missiles, and for certain types of secondary vessel (coastal escorts, hydrographic vessels, minesweepers etc.). Brest will also take care of nuclear submarines of the national strategic nuclear force, as and when they are completed.

Toulon is the main naval base for the Mediterranean and for the Mediterranean squadron. Until now, this has been the main squadron, with Brest providing a home for the smaller squadron. The respective situation of these two main French military ports is in the course of being changed. Since Algeria became independent (July, 1962), military communications across the Mediterranean have become less important, and the centre of gravity of naval forces has moved to the Atlantic.

Apart from the fleet, Toulon retains its powerful arsenal, and is responsible for the maintenance of several categories of ships : cruisers, fleet escorts not equipped with "Tartar" missiles, and high performance submarines of the *Daphne* type.

Secondary bases have the function of providing an escort naval force with general replenishment in less than 12 hours. In metropolitan France, Cherbourg, headquarters of the 1st naval region, is the secondary base for the Channel and the North Sea. The first submarine with nuclear propulsion is being built at its arsenal, and the construction of the second will begin soon.

Lorient, on the south coast of Brittany, is specially equipped for ocean-going submarines of the *Narval* type and ships of the amphibious support force. In West Africa, Dakar (Senegal), and Diego Suarez (Madagascar) are secondary bases located on the perimeter of the African continent, and facing the Atlantic and Indian Oceans respectively.

Bases classed simply as outlying stations have minor facilities, which vary greatly from one port to another; moreover, they often depend on local industries and supply agencies. Of the five listed operational bases, one is in metropolitan France: La Pallice, outer port of La Rochelle. Others are situated on various oceans, in the departments and territories of the French Republic: Fort-de-France (Martinique) in the West Indies, Djibouti (French Somaliland) at the southern end of the Red Sea, Noumea (New Caledonia) in the western Pacific ocean, and Mers-el-Kebir (Algeria).

Mers-el-Kebir is a special case. Since the end of the last world war, the French Navy has expended great sums on the building of a port and a modern base provided with very large shelters proof against atomic missiles. By the Evian agreements of 1962, France will retain the free use of the port area of Mers-el-Kebir for a number of years to come.

Ports of call are required to cope with the needs of casual visits by ships. They include, in metropolitan France, certain large commercial ports: Boulogne, le Havre, Bordeaux, Marseilles, Ajaccio; and overseas, Papeete. The little capital of Tahiti and its port have assumed an unexpected importance since the creation of a Pacific experimental centre in the French Polynesian islands, in the southern hemisphere, two years ago.

A large part of the French fleet is now required to visit the waters of Papeete, which, through the construction of new port and land installations, is able to support the large naval forces involved or detailed for duty with the Pacific nuclear centre.

Naval aviation

Naval aviation clearly does not have the same needs as surface fleets or submarines. While the number of naval air bases at the end of the 1939-45 war had risen to 18, of which half were in France, and the others scattered through Algeria and the territories of the French Union, the general recall of overseas forces has obliged the naval air arm to regroup all its units in metropolitan France.

The disposition, now in process of organization, comprises three operational and specialised bases each in the 2nd and 3rd naval regions (Atlantic and Mediteranean). Jet pursuit and attack aircraft—normally stationed on aircraft carriers. but often carrying out training on land—have bases at Landivisiau (Brittany), and Hyeres, near Toulon. Aircraft for anti-submarine warfare are based at Lann-Bihoue, near Lorient, and Nimes-Garons, in Languedoc. From these land bases, anti-submarine aircraft can carry out sea patrol operations over long distances. Finally, at Lanveoc-Poulmic (near the new Naval School, in the southern part of Brest harbour), and Saint-Maurier, on the outskirts of Toulon, there are helicopter bases.

Mobile bases and logistic fleets

"The importance of mobility to the question of protection, particularly against atomic hazards, must be emphasised," Vice-Admiral de Bazelaire wrote in the *Revue de Defense Nationale*. "This acknowledgment leads logically to the putting afloat, in large degree, of everything which is not by its nature, landbound. This has the additional advantage of providing operational forces with the extra freedom which comes from arranging for workshops and stocks of spare parts to accompany or to follow them."

Such reasoning argues in favour of mobile bases; and it is in this vein that the French Navy has striven over several years to provide itself with a logistic fleet. still modest in size, but which now consists of logistic support ships, with electronic, submarine, dredging, workshop or radiological security functions; of tankers and munitions supply vessels.

As its exists today, this logistic fleet cannot pretend to rival, even to a small extent, the powerful logistic fleets of the United States (with a tonnage one-third of the total of American fighting ships) or of the United Kingdom. Nonetheless, it gives inestimable service to the French Navy, and above all, in the South Pacific Ocean. (FIS).

CANBERRA: GROWTH AND CHALLENGE

The greatest challenge in city planning in Australia today is Canberra, the nation's capital — a city whose population has grown from 13,000 to 80,000 in the past 20 years and will probably reach the 250,000 mark in the next 20 years.

The Canberra of today is no longer the subject of ironical tags such as "bush capital" or "seven suburbs in search of a city". As the nation's tenth biggest and fastest-growing city it has outgrown all this.

Population counts have told no more dramatic tale in Australian history than the 1961 census told of Canberra. At the end of the Second World War 13,000 people lived there in one of the world's smallest national capitals.

The 1961 census suddenly revealed that the small town of 1945 was growing into a dynamic city and had already reached the 56,000 mark.

But this was only the beginning of the growth story that is still being told. A special population count in 1963 revealed that the city had grown to 70,000 in the two years since the census — an increase of 14,000. The population today is over 80,000.

However, the counting of heads tells more than a story of growth. It tells the equally significant story of a city's metamorphosis as Canberra's traditional character of purely government town changed, virtually overnight.

At the 1954 census, four out of every 10 employees could write "public servant" in the space for occupation. In 1963 only three out of 10 were able to do so.

The comparison of Canberra's population growth of 11 per cent per year with the national average of 1.97 per cent shows by itself that Canberra is no ordinary Australian city.

It is a city of young people. Compare the 29.5 births for every 1,000 people in Canberra with the 22.8 for the rest of Australia and consider the fact that 44 per cent of the city's population is under 21, and the uniqueness of the capital becomes more marked.

But the full impact of Canberra upon the nation and its full development is yet to come.

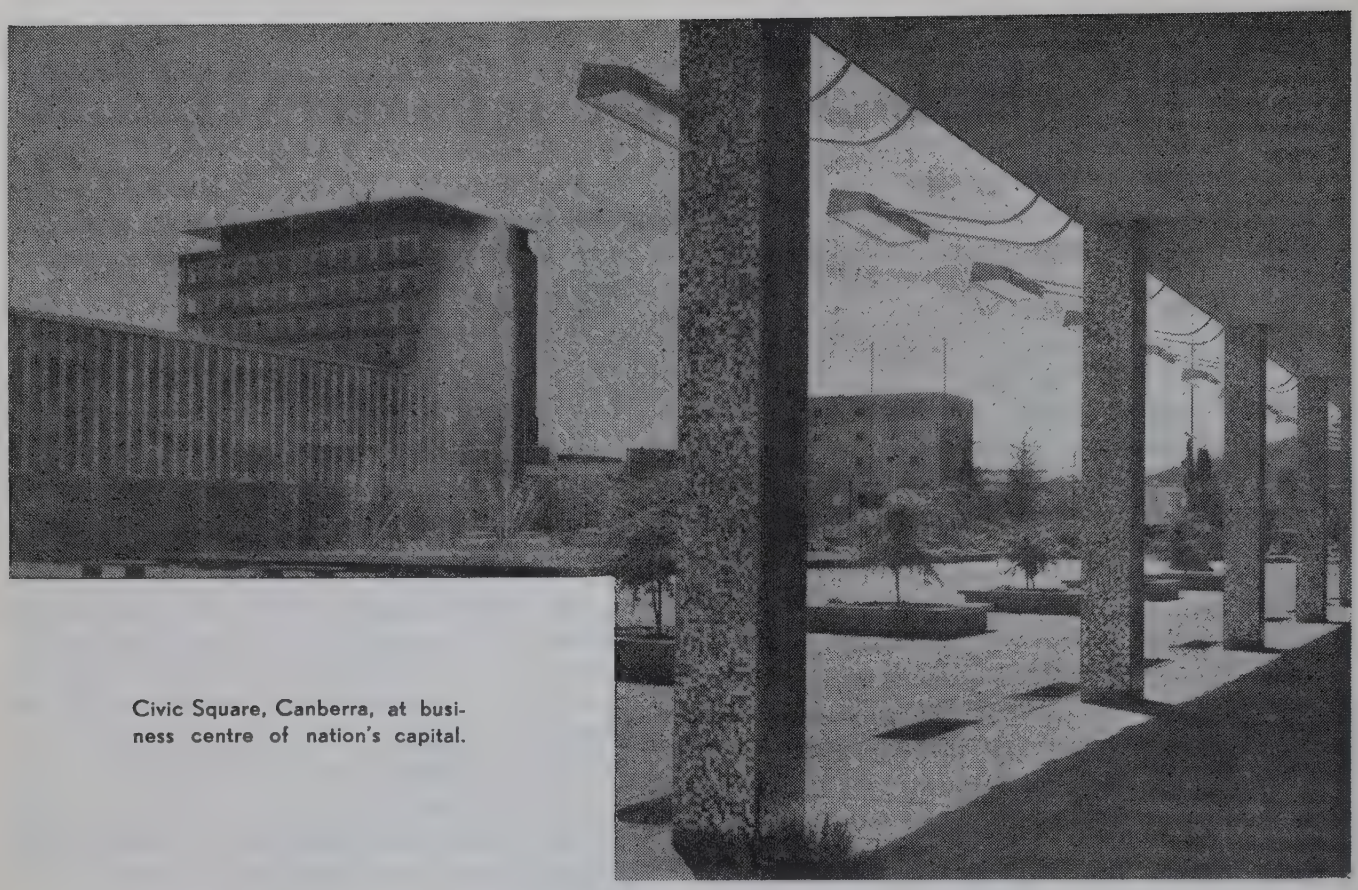
The National Capital Development Commission, which has been charged since 1958 with planning and developing the city, forecasts that a quarter of a million people will be living in the national capital in the next 20 to 25 years. This means that the present population will increase over threefold.

There are many reasons for this tremendous rate of growth, not the least being that this planned city is becoming increasingly attractive as a place to live and work in.

Planned growth

The Crown ownership of land and the system of leases of 99 years or less have given planning opportunities denied in older cities. It is possible to plan for a maximum of social and economic advantage and avoid many of the transportation problems encountered by other cities.

Federal Parliament House, Canberra, site of SEATO meetings.



Civic Square, Canberra, at business centre of nation's capital.

In particular the reservations of land for present and future transport corridors are the envy of many another city, which necessarily has gone through the costly and difficult experience of compulsory acquisition of private lands.

On the other hand, Canberra has to cope with the problem of growth which is higher than most cities of the world.

But as the city grows so does the faith in the National Capital concept, a faith that has spread throughout the nation. This is expressed by private enterprise investment to the tune now of some $27 million annually and by the half a million people and more who visit their national capital each year, seeing it with a mixture of admiration and constructive criticism.

The prime purpose of Canberra is to be the seat of Government. The city must also accommodate the full range of legislative, administrative, judicisl and private institutions associated with the Commonwealth Government. It is the home of the Australian National University.

To enable the Government to reflect the proper weight of public opinion, Canberra had to be a centre for the communication and interchange of ideas.

More and more Canberra is becoming a conference city. About 200 organizations hold their national conferences there and many of the 15,000 flights which pass through the airport each year are reserved for delegates to one or other of the meetings.

Internationally, Canberra is becoming the doorstep to Australia for politicians, diplomats, defence personnel and scholars.

It is also clearly now an emerging metropolis, a viable, commercial centre, with a dramatically changing skyline and a balanced economy.

Set on undulating plains within a framework of

The 11th meeting of the SEATO Council and the 24th SEATO Military Advisers' Conference will be held in June 1966 at Canberra, capital of Australia. The first of a series of articles on the capitals of the SEATO nations describes this entirely modern, planned city, which celebrates its 40th anniversary next year.

mountains in the Australia Capital Territory, about 200 miles by road southwest of Sydney, the national capital has one of the best climates of any Australian city, with a mean annual rainfall of 22in. and a mean annual temperature of 56 deg. F.

As well as being a focal point of government, Canberra is a business centre and the outlet by road and rail for a wealthy agricultural hinterland. The plains surrounding the capital are used chiefly for sheep-raising, wheat and maizegrowing, dairying, beef-cattle raising and fruit-growing.

The proposal that there should be a separate federal capital was first discussed and adopted in 1897-8. Much controversy followed. It was in fact 1908 before the Federal Parliament, sitting in Melbourne, chose the Yass-Canberra area, and 1911 before the area became Commonwealth (Federal) Territory.

To obtain a suitable design for the capital, the Federal Government held a world competition, awarding first prize on a majority report to an American, Walter Burley Griffin of Chicago.

Burley Griffin's plan had as its focal point Capital Hill, from which all main avenues were to radiate. He proposed that the permanent Parliament building should be erected on the lower slopes of Capital Hill, with governmental buildings flanking an open vista extending from Parliament House, towards the War Memorial at the foot of Mount Ainslie. The plan also provided for a university at Acton, residential suburbs along the banks of the Molonglo River, and a chain of ornamental lakes.

These concepts have largely been carried into effect or will be carried out in future.

In 1927, the Duke of York (later King George VI) opened Federal Parliament in Canberra, and the life of the infant capital really began.

Basic Democracies 'Working Well': Pres. Ayub

Excerpts from a speech delivered by President Mohammad Ayub Khan in Urdu at a gathering of the Basic Democrats of Dacca Division on March 12, 1966.

As you know, the idea of Basic Democracies was first conceived by me. It will interest you to know its development. The idea was that the nation must be built up so that it can fulfil the demands of the new age and also create better conditions so that the people may feel the impact of freedom. Independence must infuse a new life to the nation. This idea cannot be achieved unless we create conditions wherein the people of Pakistan—of whom 80 per cent live in villages—can participate in the affairs of the Government. The people have to be remoulded where they should feel that they have also a say in the affairs of the nation.

After a good deal of thought I came to the conclusion that responsibility must be passed on to the representatives of the people so that they could know the problems of the country and find out remedies.

Now when the system has started working, it looks simple but at the time when the thought first struck me I had also some doubts about its working. But now I tell you with happiness that this system has been working admirably well. This has benefitted the country and the nation. It has instilled a new life into the nation and it has given birth to a new force. It has changed the attitude of the people. It is not only a matter for personal gratification. It is also a matter for gratification of the people of Pakistan. The system owes its success to you and to the efforts of your predecessors who fulfilled their responsibility and proved that this system satisfied our needs and requirements.

This system has succeeded because it answered the needs of the nation and proved a panacea for most of our ills.

God has bestowed His Blessings on us and we have been able to find a system which is suited to the genius of our society, our culture and nation. Only that political system can work which reflects the genius of the people and helps find solution to the problems being faced by the people. Imported and foreign ideas cannot be imposed on the people. The people will accept them only if they help them find a solution to their problems. We are grateful to God that he showed us the correct path. Experience has shown that this was the correct path for us.

The organs of the Basic Democracies have been doing useful work—building bridges, roads, schools and small hospitals. The people who used to visit markets to buy or sell goods used to spend a rupee or more on transportation. Now, because of the construction of roads, transportation has become easy. People can market their produce easily. This is really tremendous help to the people and every one has been benefitted, more or less. I wish it may continue and

you must make efforts to see that this system is preserved. You try to understand its true philosophy and significance. As far as the Government is concerned we would continue to help you within our limited resources.

But you should not depend solely on the Government. You must also cultivate the habit of self-help. You must work collectively so that you should derive the advantage of the assistance rendered by the Government in full.

Agricultural production

You must make full endeavours to increase agricultural production. I am saying this because we have been importing surplus food from other countries, especially the United States, to meet our deficit. The world conditions have now changed to an extent where the countries which are surplus in foodgrains do not like to send foodgrains as gifts. The shortage of foodgrains is practically everywhere and the deficit countries buy up all the surplus. Therefore, the shortage cannot be met so easily. But there is no reason why we cannot meet our needs if we make a little effort. In East Pakistan, about 40 million acres of land is under cultivation and there is only one principal crop during the whole year and that is at the time of monsoon. You have land which is not saline and the excess water is carried away by rivers and 'khals' (canals). You can take full advantage of the rivers and the khals to irrigate your fields.

There was a time when it used to be said that the land will not yield good crops if brought under constant cultivation. But nowadays we have artificial fertilisers, and if cultivators uses tractors and other mechanised devices, there is no reason why even an inch of land would remain fallow. And in East Pakistan there is every opportunity for it. I told your Governor to do whatever is possible to extend irrigational facilities to the people. It may be through big pumps or tube-wells or canals. Your land is fertile. By employing these methods you can grow good crops even during periods of drought. The crops grown during these periods are likely to be better than the crops grown during the monsoon because there would be no problem of excessive rain.

In East Pakistan, the people eat nothing but rice and the people of West Pakistan take nothing but wheat. As a result we face a shortage of foodgrains. The population is on the increase. You should, therefore raise more vegetables, potatoes, monkey-nuts and soya-beans. These things have nutritive value and they will also meet the shortage of edible oils which we import from foreign countries. You should also grow maize. This is also very palatable. You should cultivate all these things. But the difficulty here is that land is divided into small fragments. There are various reasons for it into which I need not go. We must now think whether out frail oxen can satisfactorily plough our land. We should, therefore, switch over to tractors and other mechanical devices. I shall advise you to purchase such machinery on a cooperative basis so that your land can be prepared in time for cultivation. The old system of ploughing must be discarded.

In every village people must join hands and use modern methods of farming. It is also the duty of the Union Councils to prepare you for this. Side by side, you must also use fertilisers and pesticides so that your crops are not ruined when grown up. We must produce enough so that we can meet our requirements and do not have to run to foreign countries for assistance. We should not waste our hard-earned foreign exchange to procure food. What I am saying here is not mere talk. You go to Comilla Village Academy and see the good work done there. There the conditions of the people have undergone a change. The whole place wears a new look. This is just because of the efforts of one man. He is Akhtar Hamid Khan. He goes to the people and explains to them the methods of good cultivation. He has also taught the system to a large number of Government servants. You must learn this method and must learn it as soon as possible. I have come to know that every Thana (locality) will have a development centre where training in such

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, Chaudhry Fazal Illahi (left) is interviewed for a SEATO radio program in Bangkok by A.D.M. Curnow, SEATO's Deputy Director of Public Information. Mr. Illahi was on his way back to Pakistan after attending the Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference in Canberra, Australia.

methods will be imparted. I shall urge you to learn it and learn it as quickly as possible.

Population growth

I had earlier hinted at the increasing trend of population. This is a very dangerous development. In spite of difficulties, Government has launched an ambitious scheme of family planning. You must cooperate with those who are making all efforts to make this scheme a success. The need is paramount. The development taking place in the country will yield no result unless we put a stop to this rate of growth of population. Now you may ask why the population has been growing. It is because while modern science and medicine put a check on the death-rate, they cannot effectively control the birth-rate.

You are the representatives of the people. The age has gone when people used to gather round Chowdhries, Malik and Khans, and offered their gifts. Now, the people expect that you, as the representatives of the people, will go to them and offer them your services. You must understand and appreciate this new trend. They expect you to do some service to them. You must serve them. You must help them find the correct path. You must educate them, teach them these methods to better their economic condition and provide them with opportunities for their mental development.

The system of Basic Democracies has been very successful. But you should not rest on your laurels. A great responsibility devolves on you. You must protect this system and it is my duty as well as your duty to keep the system going. (PIS).

Australia's Expanding Overseas Aid Program

A recent survey of Australia's external aid program, issued by the Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Hasluck, provides a useful comparison with the efforts of other nations which are both more populous and more highly industrialised. Since the end of the Second World War, Australia has spent more than $940 million on external aid, and in the current financial year it intends to add $135 million This amounts to $12.30 for every Australian, including women and children.

Worked out in terms of national income, this amounts to 0.6 per cent. Only four other countries, France, the United States, Britain and Belgium, have allotted a higher percentage, and unlike them, Australia is stil la developing country and a net importer of capital. It has one foot in each of the world's economic groups. Most other countries give a substantial proportion of their aid in loans on which interest and capital repayment must be made. Australia is the only one of the major donors giving all its bilateral aid in the form of direct grants. It asks for no repayment, and so imposes no strains on the foreign exchange holdings of the countries receiving aid.

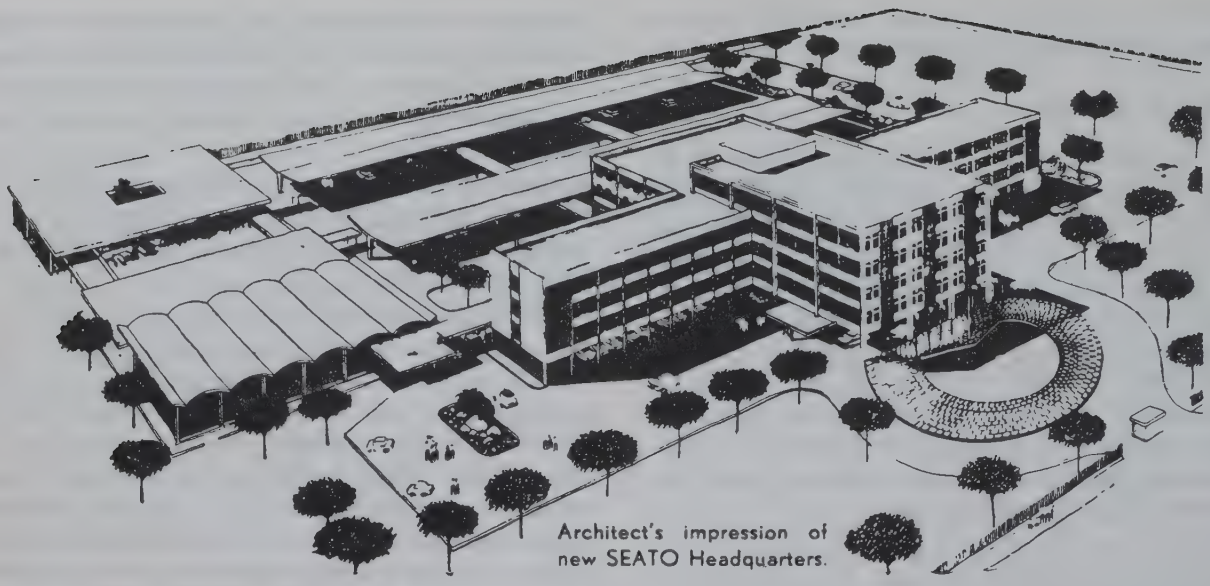
This program has developed rapidly, and it now runs at a level nearly 10 times as high as in 1946. The aid has been given directly and through a wide and expanding range of international agencies: through the Colombo Plan, SEATO, the Commonwealth and the United Nations. The aid takes many forms, based on only one criterion: its practical usefulness. Much of it is given in education and technical assistance, some in food and disaster relief for Asian countries, some in defence support, some in grants to important capital projects like the Indus Basin Development Fund. Australian specialists working and giving instruction in Asia can be numbered in hundreds: Asian students in Australia number more than 10,000.

The main flow of Australia's bilateral aid has been through the Colombo Plan, in which Australia has played a leading role since it was established 16 years ago. Training awards in a wide range of practical and cultural subjects have been given under this scheme, in particular to Thais, Malaysians, Indonesians, Indians, Pakistanis, Burmese and Filipinos.

This form of aid has a cumulative effect. Graduates and trained students return to their countries to practise their skills and to teach others.

The heaviest burden carried by Australia in the field of external aid is towards the territory of Papua and New Guinea, which is its own political responsibility. This primitive and undeveloped territory is now passing through a period of forced growth in education, agriculture, industry, transport and social services. This program makes the territory increasingly dependent on external aid, and this year Australia has set aside more than $81 million in grants and special expenditure towards the work. This is 15 times greater than the grant made 20 years ago.

It is difficult for a donor country to estimate the worth of its aid. Australia believes in close cooperation with recipient countries to find out their needs and to ensure that money and skills are properly used. It has never used aid as a political weapon unless, as one Australian said recently, "one sees a political motive in wanting to see prosperous and healthy neighbours." (Radio Australia).



Architect's impression of new SEATO Headquarters.

New SEATO Headquarters Begins to Rise

Work started in May on the construction of the new SEATO Headquarters building in Sri Ayudhaya Road, Bangkok. Contracts were signed at a ceremony at SEATO Headquarters on April 28.

It is expected that the building will be ready for occupation by July, 1967.

The Acting Secretary-General, Mr. D.A. Wraight, signed contracts on behalf of SEATO with the representatives of four companies: Ohbayashi-Gumi Ltd. (main construction and electrical installation); F.E. Zuellig (Bangkok) Co. Ltd. (air conditioning); International Engineering Co. Ltd. (elevators); and Philips Electrical Co. Ltd. of Thailand (telephones).

The new headquarters will be of ferroconcrete construction. It will face Sri Ayudhya Road on a site of 30 *rai* (12 acres), and will have a central block rising to a height of five floors, flanked on each side by wings raised on pillars to provide three floors of office space above ground floor level. The total floor area will be some 8,000 square metres.

The foundation stone was dedicated by H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand on September 8, 1964, the tenth anniversary of the signing of the South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty.

All pile driving work and the construction of the boundary fence were completed in 1965.

The selection of Bangkok as the permanent seat of the Organization's headquarters was made at the first meeting of the SEATO Council, at Bangkok, in February 1955. At its second meeting, at Karachi in

Deputy Secretary-General David A. Wraight (centre) and Chief, MPO, Maj. Gen. H.A. Prince (right) sign contract for new building with representatives of Japanese construction firm.

March 1956, the Council accepted the offer of the Royal Thai Government to provide a building to house the Secretariat which was to be set up in the course of that year.

On June 24, 1956, the present headquarters building, previously occupied by a branch of the Police Department, was formally handed over and dedicated. It houses the offices of the SEATO Secretariat-General and Military Planning Office, and serves as meeting place for the SEATO Council Representatives, Military Advisers, Permanent Working Group and other consultative and expert bodies.

The Organization found that it needed additional office space as its functions and responstibilities increased. Various ways of meeting this need were considered and it was finally concluded that a new building was the best solution.

In March 1961, the Secretary-General was asked to submit cost estimates and plans for a new headquarters building on a new site. The Royal Thai Government at the Council meeting held in Bangkok that year offered to negotiate with the Organization on the question of accommodation, and later the site in Sri Ayudhaya Road, flanked by Rama VI Road on one side and the main railway line on the other, was proposed and accepted.

In the course of 1961 and 1962 detailed plans were worked out by architects of the Department of Municipal and Public Works, with the collaboration of consultants nominated by the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States. The plans have since been carefully revised in the interests of utility and economy.

SOIL ENGINEERING

Soil engineering is being offered as a separate area of study at the SEATO Graduate School of Engineering from June, 1966, the beginning of the school's academic year. Meanwhile preparations are under way to bring together soil engineering experts from the South-East Asian region in a conference to be sponsored by the school next year.

Formal announcements and invitations have been sent out to 12 countries: Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Malaysia, and Viet-Nam. Among Government agencies, research institutes and private firms in Thailand collaborating with the SEATO School in organizing the conference are the Highway Department, the Irrigation Department, Chulalongkorn University, the Applied Scientific Research Corporation of Thailand, Sigma Co. Ltd., Louis Berger Inc., and Tibbetts, Abbott, McCarthy and Stratton.

Dr. Za-Chieh Moh, Associate Professor of Civil Engineering of the SEATO School, is the coordinator of the committees set up to prepare for the conference. Dr. Moh has been conducting courses and studies on soil engineering at the school since last year.

"Methods and techniques used in industrialized countries," Dr. Moh said in a recent interview, "often cannot be directly applied to problems encountered in this region. The conference—its full name is the South-East Asian Regional Conference on Soil Engineering—will provide the opportunity for researchers, educators and engineers to pool their experiences and resources toward finding solutions of common regional problems.

"There has been very little communication among soil experts in this area. The need for international cooperation is obvious, especially in view of the increasing number of construction projects being launched in most developing countries. Soil, as everyone knows, is one of the most important materials in any construction project, whether you are building roads, airfields, or dams."

Asked about activites in soil research at the SEATO School, Dr. Moh pointed out some of their specific aims. One is to find the most suitable and economical method of stabilizing locally available soils such as lateritic soils and deltaic clays. Another is to determine the fundamental engineering characteristics, e.g. shear strength and compressibility of deltaic deposit, more commonly known as Bangkok clay. A third aim is to determine the feasibility of using this clay deposit for engineering construction.

Research on Choleragen

Dr. Richard A. Finkelstein of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory presented a paper on cholera at the 66th annual meeting of the American Society for Microbiology held in Los Angeles from May 1 to 5.

On his way back to Bangkok after the meeting he spent a few days in Manila to consult with cholera experts in the Philippines. Dr. Finkelstein is internationally known for his research on the cholera-causing factor to which he has given the name 'choleragen.' Choleragen has been shown by Dr. Chanyo Benyachart of Chulalongkorn Hospital to cause cholera in human volunteers. The paper Dr. Finkelstein presented in Los Angeles dealt with the identification of choleragen and its differentiation from cholera mucinase.

Award Ceremony: Call for 'Responsive SEATO'

Thirty-eight students from 24 different schools in the Philippines qualified for cash awards of $104 each under the SEATO under-graduate scholarship program this year. The selection was based on the students' high scholastic record, capability for leadership, need for financial assistance and the importance of their respective courses to the development of the country.

Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Narciso Ramos congratulates Miss Violeta Concepcion, a senior student of the Philippine College of Commerce, on winning a SEATO under-graduate scholarship.

Secretary of Foreign Affairs Narciso Ramos presented some of the awards to a representative group in the Manila area at a ceremony held at the Department of Foreign Affairs on March 28.

In his address, he said: "I hope that an opportunity will arise for the Philippines to contribute in an effective way to the strengthening of SEATO."

"The Philippines under this administration," he continued, "intends to take an active role in making this alliance more responsive to the increasing requirements for regional security and progress"

"In the ideological struggle that has divided the world into two camps, we are irrevocably aligned with the democracies because it is our firm purpose to uphold individual liberty and the rule of law."

"It is in the context of this principle," he added, "that Filipinos fight on the side of democracy wherever it is threatened."

Films on SEATO

Three films are now available for loan to universities, schools, libraries and other institutions, in their 16 mm versions, with English or Thai sound tracks.

SEATO: Shield of Progress. A 20-minute, black-and-white documentary, surveying the work and achievement of SEATO in the military, economic, social and cultural fields. From national information services of member countries.

SEATO Exercise "Air Boon Choo". Dramatic 20-minute colour film, giving a step-by-step account of an air defence exercise held in Thailand in 1964. From film libraries of the United States Information Service and the U.S. Air Force.

SEATO Graduate School of Engineering. A 25-minute black and white film showing all aspects of this unique regional institution of higher learning serving South-East Asia. From USIS, Bangkok, in English and Thai.

These films may also be borrowed from:

The Director,
Public Information Office,
SEATO Headquarters,
P.O. Box 517,
Bangkok, Thailand.

SEATO GRADUATION

Thirty-nine graduates of the SEATO Graduate School of Engineering received their diplomas on March 24 from the Hon. D.J. Samuel, chairman of the school's board of management and general manager of the Shell Company of Thailand. The graduation exercises took place at the school, in Henri Dunant Road, Bangkok.

In his graduation address, Mr. Samuel said:

"You who are graduating today will soon be building roads and dams, irrigation projects and bridges, hospitals and schools. It is on your groundwork that the economy is then built up: dams to provide power for industry, irrigation to increase the farmer's produce, which can then move quickly to the markets on the roads you have made. Better communication on land and on water to ease the flow of commerce.

"This harmony of public and private service, this unity of purpose towards a better life for more people, is a very real and exciting thing, which touches all of us. It is not, moreover, confined to one country, but like this very school is international."

SEATO Secretary-General Jesus Vargas, in his address congratulated the graduates and referred to the development of the school since its foundation in 1959.

Five students from five countries who were among the 39 graduates of the SEATO Graduate School of Engineering this year. They are, from left: Yun-Pin Chin (Taiwan), Sukhum Sukapanpotharam (Thai land), Mow-Woo Lee (Malaysia), Fausto Ili Ilasin (Philippines) and S.M. Ataur Rahman (Pakistan).

"The school," he said, "despite its brief existence, has already matured, has earned respect and a reputation, and is now regarded not only as an institutional model, but more substantively as a reservoir of the highly trained and qualified graduate engineers so urgently needed at this point of time in South-East Asia.

"It would therefore be entirely appropriate to compliment the school on the vital role it is playing in the area of higher engineering education in this region of ours."

Of the 39 graduating students, 14 were from the Philippines, 14 from Thailand, 6 from Pakistan, 3 from Malaysia, and 2 from Taiwan. All received a master's degree in one of the four branches of civil engineering taught at the school—hydraulic, structural, transportation and public health.

HORSES FOR THAILAND

Twenty horses have been given by the Australian Government to the Queen Saovabha Memorial Institute in Bangkok to assist in the establishment of a breeding centre. The horses will be used for the institute's work of producing serums against diseases and for the cure of rabies and snake-bite.

At a ceremony marking the handover, the Australian Ambassador to Thailand, Mr. A.H. Loomes, said Australia had already given horses to the institute and would give more over the next two years. (AIS).

Nam Ngum Finance

The hydroelectric power project to harness the waters of a Laotian Mekong River tributary moved a step closer to realization on May 4 when seven nations signed an agreement contributing $22,815,000 to the Nam Ngum development fund.

The project, largest in the Mekong River basin development to date, is viewed as a major economic and social turning point in the history of Laos.

It will provide for construction of a dam and power house about 48 miles from Vientiane. Generating capacity will be up to 30,000 kilowatts, with provision to raise the capacity to 120,000 kilowatts. There will be transmission lines from the dam to Vientiane and from there to North-East Thailand.

These grants were pledged at the signing at the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank) in Washington:

United States, $12,065,000; Japan, $4 million; the Netherlands, $3,300,000; Canada, $2 million; Denmark, $600,000; Australia, $500,000; and New Zealand; $350,000. (USIS).

Standard weights with a tolerance within the weight of two human hairs have been made in Australia for the Applied Scientific Research Corporation of Thailand. The weights are used as a basis of comparison of other weights. (PRD).

Development News

High prices and favourable weather have led to an increase of 25.9 per cent in the area under jute in Pakistan in 1965-66. Acreage is 2,090,000, compared with 1,660,000 in the previous year. Production is expected to be 19.4 per cent higher: 6,364,000 bales as against 5,328,000 bales. (PIS).

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Government expenditure on health in Pakistan will be three times more in the third five-year plan period (1965-70) than in the second plan period. Aims include the provision of one doctor for 3,000 persons, one nurse for 4,500 persons or for five hospital beds, one woman health visitor per 10,000, and one hospital bed per 1,000. (PIS).

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Since the Second World War, Australia has provided $840 million for international development and relief, and current assistance is at the rate of $112 million a year. Announcing this in Melbourne, the Minister for Trade and Industry, Mr. John McEwen, said Australia had learned that commercially profitable industries were needed as a base for sound development. "Our own experience teaches us that trade, not aid, is best," he said. (AIS).

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Pakistan's first ocean-going vessel is now under construction at Karachi Shipyard. The ship, of about 13,000 tons dead weight, will be ready by the end of this year at a cost of over $4.6 million.

The shipyard has so far built 72 small vessels of which 25 were for foreign buyers. (PIS).

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A new shipping port at Mangla in East Pakistan is to be built at a cost of $44 million.

The economic and engineering survey of the project has already been completed and a master plan as a result of that survey has been approved by the Government. (PIS).

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A ten-year, $172.5 million redevelopment program for the ports of Sydney and Newcastle, Australia, has been announced. A further $13.4 million will be spent on incidental dredging and development works. (AIS).

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A prediction that minerals will supersede agricultural products as Australia's major export has been made by the Minister for National Development, Mr. Fairbairn. Within five years, he said, export income from minerals will overtake wool, at present the largest item. (AIS).

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A $22.5 million loan has been procured from the International Development Association for modernization of Dacca-Chittagong highway in East Pakistan. (PIS).

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Work on the $21 million irrigation project at Chandpur in East Pakistan is going ahead at a rapid pace.

Over 137,000 acres of land will be protected against floods and 110,000 acres will be provided with irrigation facilities. The project is likely to be completed by the end of the current plan period. (PIS).

CHALLENGING TASKS AHEAD OF AUSTRALIA

The Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Holt, said on April 18 that Australia was facing a greater destiny than it had ever known before.

He said Australians could take part in meeting the challenge of the tasks ahead with pride and dedication.

Mr. Holt was speaking at a civic reception given in his honour by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Councillor Beaurepaire. He said Australia was living in a changing world and a challenging period in its history.

Previously Australia has looked towards Europe but now it was on the threshold of a new trading pattern of a far-reaching nature. The country was being jolted into a national adulthood requiring teamwork at all government levels.

Mr. Holt said that there were more than 1,500 million people to the north of Australia and the population in the Asian region would double before the end of this century. This would impose great demands and responsibility on Australians because these peoples were looking towards Australia for raw materials, food and other requirements. (Radio Australia).

Minimum age for entry into the New Zealand Army has been reduced from 18 to 17½ years. Parental consent is required by recruits under 21, and the minium age for overseas service remains 20, or 19 with parental consent. (NZIS).

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PLOSS, Sidney I. Conflict and decision-making in Soviet Russia; a case study of agricultural policy 1953-1963. Princeton, University Press, 1965. 312p. 335.430947

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RURAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Thailand and the United States have signed an agreement aimed at increasing and improving Thailand's rural health facilities. This comprehensive rural health project features maternal and child health, regular sanitation, and nutrition services plus control activities for a variety of communicable diseases. A primary objective will be to develop multi-purpose health workers for remote areas.

During the next three years. Thailand and the United States will each spend approximately $1,500,000 a year on the program. Most of this money will be used for rural health improvements in the North-East and the North. Activity will initially be concentrated in the six north-eastern provinces of Loey, Ubol, Udorn, Sakol Nakorn, Nongkhai, and Nakorn Phanom. In 1967 the program will be expanded to include Nan, Chiengrai, Uttradit, Roi-et, and Kalasin provinces. (PRD).

NEW DAM OPENED

The Ubol Ratana dam on the Nam Pong river in North-East Thailand was dedicated by H.M. the King of Thailand on March 14. Second tributary project in the UN-sponsored scheme for the development of the Lower Mekong Basin to become operational, the new dam will provide 25,000 kw. of electric generating capacity, and irrigate some 47,000 hectares of land.

The dam, some 50 kilometres north-west of Khonkaen, is 30 metres high, 800 metres long, and 6 metres in width.

Funds for the project consisted of a $16 million loan from the Federal Republic of Germany, $13.1 million allocated by Thailand, with smaller contributions from Pakistan under the Colombo Plan and from the Republic of China. (PRD).

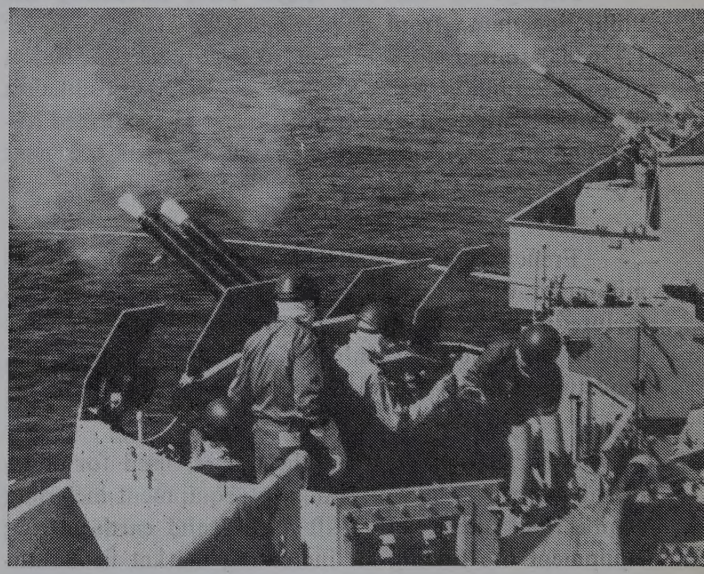
Exercise 'Sea Imp'

Director of SEATO Exercise "Sea Imp", Rear Admiral C.P. Mills (foreground) discusses exercise plan with other flag officers taking part, from left: Rear Admiral R.M. Isaman, deputy director of exercise, and Commander, Patrol Force, US Seventh Fleet, Rear Admiral F.B. Gilkeson, Commander US Anti-submarine Warfare Group 3, and Rear Admiral V.A.T. Smith, Flag Officer Commanding Australian Fleet. Admiral Mills is Second in Command, British Far East Fleet.

Above: Ships of "Sea Imp" maritime force leave Manila Bay at the start of their 2,000-mile convoy passage to Bangkok. Australian anti-submarine frigate "Yarra" and carrier "Melbourne" with British guided missile ship "Devonshire" form up off Corregidor.

Squadron pilot on USS "Yorktown" explains the operation of his aircraft to (from left): Major Angel Mapua, Philippine Air Force, Lt. Col. Jose Castillo, Philippine Army, Captain Adul Tulyanon, Royal Thai Navy, Lt. Cdr. Peter Lees, and Lt. Cdr. Robert Morse, Royal Navy.

Aircraft handlers on HMAS Melbourne range four Wessex helicopters ready to take off for anti-submarine screening of convoy.



Gunners of HMAS Melbourne fire "break-up" shot at attacking aircraft.

Seaman of five navies taking part in Exercise "Sea Imp" see the making of cesta, the basketwork bats used in the fast game of jai-alai, popular in Manila.

PR MOVES ON AGRICULTURE

Directives designed to boost rice and corn production in the Philippines and to avert a rice shortage next year, have been given by President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

President Marcos has authorised the release of over $57,000 to finance a better seed program, decided on reorganization of the Bureau of Plant Industry which is charged with seed improvement, certified a bill which will authorize him to borrow some $72 million from the World Bank for irrigation development, and created the Rice and Corn Production Coordinating Council.

Vice President Fernando Lopez will have overall charge of the work of the council. (Phil. IS).

Trade Notes

Passage of the US Sugar Act, increasing the Philippine quota from a basic 980,000 tons to over 1,276,000 tons assures markets for a total production of over 2 million tons a year up to 1971. Production in 1964-65 was only 1,722,474 tons. The expected additional income from the increased crop in the next five years is just under $200 million. (Phil. IS).

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French exports to Britain increased from $523.8 million in 1964 to $534.24 million last year. Manufactured goods and fuel imports rose in value, but Britain took less by value of French farm products, foodstuffs and raw materials. (FIS).

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Australian-made hydraulic valves, used for directional control of a wide range of equipment including engineering presses, fork-lift trucks and earth-moving equipment are finding an increasing market in South-East Asia. (AIS).

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Pakistan's exports are being geared up to earn over $1,000 million in foreign exchange during the next financial year. (PIS).

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Twenty members of the New Zealand Manufacturers' Federation were included in a trade mission to South-East Asia in April. (NZIS).

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New Zealand exports of manufactured goods to countries of South-East Asia rose from $590,000 in 1962-63 to $1,904,000 in 1964-65. (NZIS).

Former Philippine President, Diosdado Macapagal, has visited New Zealand to study economic and social development. He said the Philippines would be looking to New Zealand in the next few years as a market for its expanding range of exports. The Philippines exported only about $280,000 worth of goods to New Zealand each year, compared with imports, mainly of meat and dairy produce, amounting to $5.6 million. (NZIS).

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Thailand has signed an agreement with the Philippines for the sale, on a government-to-government basis of 10,000 tons of maize. Other exports of Thai maize to the Philippines this year are expected to reach 20,000 tons. (PRD).

Rice growing in Australia

Australia produced 153,251 long tons of paddy rice in 1965. About 30 per cent of this was consumed by the home market. The rest was exported to a number of overseas countries, including Britain, New Zealand, Canada, Okinawa, Hong Kong, Papua and New Guinea and most of the South Pacific islands.

The average yield for the 1965 crop was 2.448 tons an acre, though world record yields of 4.3 tons an acre have been recorded on areas of 100 acres or so. Most of Australia's rice (150,556 tons of the 1965 crop) is grown in south-western New South Wales in the Murrumbidgee, Coleambally and Murray Valley Irrigation Areas. Some rice (2,500 tons in 1965) is grown on the Ord and Fitzroy Rivers in the north of Western Australia where the industry is new but expanding. A smaller quantity (195 tons in 1965) comes from the Northern Territory.

Australia's rice farming methods differ considerably from those of other lands. In Australia rice is a rotation crop, alternating at from four to six year intervals with pastures on which sheep and cattle are grazed. The whole industry, from planting to milling, is completely mechanised. Close cooperation is maintained between growers, millers and research scientists. Through this cooperation techniques have been developed that have made rice farming one of the most efficient of Australia's primary industries. (AIS).

Six hundred delegates from 60 member nations are expected to attend the 20th general assembly of the World Medical Association in the Philippines next November. Dr. Jesus Tamesis, formerly president of the Philippine Medical Association is current president of the WMA, and Dr. Alberto Z. Romualdez, also a Filipino, its secretary-general. (Phil. IS).

Australian Offer to Aid Agriculture

Australia's Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Hasluck, said in New Delhi recently that his country would be happy to help the developing nations of Asia to overcome their agricultural problems. He was speaking to the conference of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.

Mr. Hasluck referred to the need for more resources to be devoted to agriculture in the region. Stagnation in agriculture continues with serious consequences, he said. In many countries there is still a large scope for improving agricultural methods and productivity by the introduction of new and simple techniques that do not require much capital investment. His offer at New Delhi was to help in this field, by giving ECAFE members the benefit of whatever Australia has learned by way of improved farming methods. What Australia now offers is to help in training farmers on the spot in methods which will increase their yield without large new capital expenditure. (Radio Australia).

CENTO MILITARY APPOINTMENT

Air Marshal Thomas William Piper, CB, CBE, AFC, RAF, will arrive in Ankara in July to replace Air Marshal Sir Charles Broughton, KBE, CB, as the United Kingdom representative on the CENTO Permanent Military Deputies Group.

Air Marshal Piper served with Bomber Command during World War II. Following the cessation of hostilities he was stationed in Austria and West Germany during the Berlin airlift. After duty in the Middle East from 1950-1953, he was assigned as Chief of Staff, Near East Command, from 1960-1962. The Air Marshal will leave his present post as Commandant, Royal Air Force Staff College, to assume his new duties with CENTO.

Seato Publications

(The following publications may be obtained, on request, from the Public Information office, SEATO Headquarters, P.O. Box 517, Bangkok, Thailand.)

SEATO Annual Report 1964-65 (English, Thai) — by Lt. Gen. Jesus M. Vargas, Secretary-General of SEATO.

SEATO: 1954-1964 (English, Thai) — A pictorial and written review of 10 years of SEATO progress.

Story of SEATO (English, Thai)
Information pamphlet on SEATO with notes on member countries.

Manila Pact and Pacific Charter
Texts of the South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty and the Pacific Charter, with explanatory notes.

Gandhara Sculpture in Pakistan (English, Thai)
The origin and development of Gandhara art.

Aspects of the History, Culture and Religions of Pakistan
Lectures by Dr. Ishtiaq Hussain Qureshi, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Karachi, as a travelling lecturer under the SEATO Cultural Program.

Interpretative Translations of Thai Poets
by M.R. Seni Pramoj.

SEATO Activities Under the Cultural Relations Program
SEATO activities from 1957-1964 in the field of education.

Post-graduate Studies in Asian SEATO Countries
A guide for applicants for SEATO post-graduate scholarships.

Collective Security: Shield of Freedom (Revised, 1963)
The nature and scope of the various collective security pacts linking 41 nations of the Free World. Foreword by Mr. Pote Sarasin, former Secretary-General of SEATO. 165 pp.

Medical
Research into Disease—I: Cholera (Pakistan—SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory).

Research into Disease — II: The Search for Health (SEATO Medical Projects in Thailand).

Skilled Workers for the Armed Forces (English, Thai)
A description of the SEATO Military Technical Training School, Bangkok.

Training Workers for Developing Industries (English, Thai)
An account of the SEATO Skilled Labour Project in Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand.

Posters:
Better Communications for Better Living (English, Thai)

Skilled Hands for National Progress (English, Thai)

The Painter's View of his Country — I

Communist Economic Subversion: A Reappraisal
by Dr. Hans Heymann Jr. A discussion of the growing Communist reliance on economic measures as tools of foreign policy.

Peking on Revolution
Extracts from speeches and articles on the 90th anniversary of the birth of Lenin indicating the demand for revolutionary uprising.

Printed by Chaveng Chavengthamarat at the Thai Sambhand Printing Press, 62-64, Fuang Nakorn Road, Bangkok, June 1966

New Zealand Minister of Defence, Mr. D.J. Eyre, accompanied by Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapya SEATO Military Adviser for Thailand, Deputy Minister of Defence, and Chief of Staff, Supreme Command Headquarters, inspects a guard of honour on his arrival at Bangkok.

Below: Air Chief Marshal Dawee makes friends with three-year-old Stephen Rutherford during his visit to the New Zealand feeder road building project in Mahasarakham. Stephen is the son of Major R.K. Rutherford, officer commanding the detachment of New Zealand Army engineers building the road.

Above: An important visit in Mr. Eyre's four-nation tour of New Zealand forces in South-East Asia, was to Mahasarakham, North-East Thailand, where New Zealand Army engineers are building a 170-kilometre provincial road. Here, Major R.K. Rutherford, officer commanding the engineer team, briefs, (from left), Mr. Eyre, Air Chief Marshal Dawee, Lt. Gen. L.W. Thornton, Chief of New Zealand Defence Staff, Sir Stephen Weir, New Zealand Ambassador to Thailand and Mr. Rong Tasanachali, Governor of Mahasarakham.